



Maintaining Physician Payment Rates Would Cost \$271 Billion: CBO

According to an analysis by the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office, maintaining Medicare payments to physicians at their current levels from now until 2022 would cost the federal government an additional \$271 billion during that period. [Read More](#)

Laying the Groundwork for Bundled Payment

Bundled payment experts share several strategies to help hospitals prepare for the nuances and challenges of the new payment model. [Read More](#)

Study: Safety Net Hospitals Likely to Fare Poorly in Value-Based Purchasing Program

A new study published in the *Archives of Internal Medicine* finds that safety net hospitals often receive poorer patient experience performance ratings than other hospitals, which could add to the financial troubles of the hospitals when the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) begins in October adjusting hospital payments based on quality metrics, researchers say. [Read More](#)

Guardian Healthcare Liquidating Trust

Effective October 12, 2010, Guardian Healthcare, Inc. was placed in Rehabilitation. This was done for financial reasons. On October 22, 2010, an Amended Order of Rehabilitation was entered against Guardian. The Amended Order provides for a number of things which include the following:

- An assumption of the policyholder contracts by Sterling Life Insurance Company effective 11/1/2010
- Authorization of a Liquidating Trust to handle all claims and liabilities incurred prior to 11/1/2010
- Authorization to transfer all unpaid claims and liabilities as of 11/1/2010 into the Liquidating Trust along with all assets then existing or subsequently acquired
- Sets 12/31/2011 as the deadline for filing proof of claims with the Liquidating Trust

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(Guardian Healthcare was a Medicare Advantage plan predominantly in the upstate that became insolvent. Estimates indicate the liquidation will pay about 25%-35% of the Medicare allowed amount. ResourceOne has filed all necessary forms on behalf of its clients including the Proof of Claim.)

Study: One in 10 Employers to Drop Health Coverage

Approximately one in 10 employers plans to end workers' health insurance as the Affordable Care Act is implemented, according to a new Deloitte study, *The Wall Street Journal* reports. [Read More](#)

Survey: Hospital Leaders Reporting Increase in OR Use

Nearly half of hospital executives report their operating room case volumes have increased in the past year, while 73 percent expect to see volumes grow during the next three years, according to a survey by software firm Surgical Information Systems. [Read More](#)

Survey: 60 Percent of Employers Expect Cost Increase from Affordable Care Act

Approximately 60 percent of employers expect some increase in their health benefit costs as a result of the Affordable Care Act, with 20 percent of those employers projecting an increase in costs of 5 percent or more beyond usual increases, according to a recent survey by consulting firm Mercer. [Read More](#)