



**STATEMENT ON INPATIENT VALUE-BASED PURCHASING PROVISIONS IN
FINAL OUTPATIENT PROSPECTIVE PAYMENT RULE**

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November 1, 2011

The key provisions in today's final rule related to value-based purchasing (VBP) are good news for patients who depend on hospital care. At the AHA's urging, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) revised its proposal to better reflect the intent of Congress for the inpatient VBP program under Medicare.

America's hospitals firmly support the VBP program, which is designed to help hospitals improve patient care. That is why the AHA earlier this year voiced strong concerns about the way CMS was establishing quality and efficiency measures under the program. Congress had established a specific process for CMS to follow for the VBP program, and the AHA urged CMS to adhere to the law. We commend CMS for recognizing that this process is important to protect hospitals and their patients from flawed measures that could cause unintended harm to patients or unfairly penalize hospitals.

We are pleased that CMS responded to the concerns of hospitals and will continue to analyze the details of the rule.

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