

DEEP MEDICARE CUTS WILL DESTABILIZE PHYSICAL THERAPY SERVICES

The 2021 and 2022 Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) Physician Fee Schedule (PFS) regulations undermine patient access to vital physical therapy services. In 2021, the so-called “E/M” policy resulted in across-the-board cuts to physical, occupational, and speech therapy services that will lead to a full 9% cut by 2024 if left unaddressed. In addition, starting in January 2022, CMS slashed payments for therapist assistants by 15%.

While Congress took action to mitigate the E/M cuts in 2022 by passing the Protecting Medicare and American Farmers from Sequester Cuts Act (S. 610), the relief only is temporary. Moreover, the bill allows the 2% across-the-board sequester to come fully back online on July 1, 2022. These deep payment reductions will exacerbate the effects of previous cuts, including a 2011 multiple procedure payment (MPPR) reduction (which was increased in 2013).

As the United States continues to confront a series of health challenges, including the opioid crisis and the epidemic of elderly Americans falling in their homes, patient access to safe, professional physical therapy services must be protected.



STAND UP FOR SENIORS:
BLOCK THE PROPOSED 4.5% MEDICARE
CUT TO PHYSICAL THERAPY FOR 2023

APTQI
ALLIANCE FOR PHYSICAL THERAPY
QUALITY AND INNOVATION

WWW.APTQI.COM