

TABLE 26.—IMPACT OF PHYSICIAN FEE SCHEDULE CHANGES ON TOTAL MEDICARE ALLOWED CHARGES BY PHYSICIAN, PRACTITIONER AND SUPPLIER SUBCATEGORY

Specialty	Medicare allowed charges (millions)	NPRM (percent)	Practice expense refinements (percent)	Adjusting RVUs to match MEI weights (percent)	Total (percent)
Physicians:					
ALLERGY/IMMUNOLOGY	\$153	-1	-1	0	-2
ANESTHESIOLOGY	1,327	0	0	0	0
CARDIAC SURGERY	321	0	0	1	0
CARDIOLOGY	5,759	0	0	0	0
CLINICS	1,167	0	0	0	0
COLON AND RECTAL SURGERY	101	1	0	0	1
CRITICAL CARE	108	-1	0	0	-1
DERMATOLOGY	1,708	0	0	0	0
EMERGENCY MEDICINE	1,444	0	0	0	0
ENDOCRINOLOGY	246	1	0	0	1
FAMILY PRACTICE	4,005	1	0	0	1
GASTROENTEROLOGY	1,513	-1	0	0	-1
GENERAL PRACTICE	954	0	0	0	0
GENERAL SURGERY	2,110	-1	0	0	0
GERIATRICS	97	-1	1	0	0
HAND SURGERY	46	-2	0	0	-2
HEMATOLOGY/ONCOLOGY	1,086	1	0	0	1
INFECTIOUS DISEASE	336	0	0	0	0
INTERNAL MEDICINE	7,917	1	0	0	1
INTERVENTIONAL RADIOLOGY	155	0	-1	0	0
NEPHROLOGY	1,187	0	0	0	0
NEUROLOGY	1,072	1	0	0	1
NEUROSURGERY	433	0	0	1	1
OBSTETRICS/GYNECOLOGY	550	1	0	0	1
OPHTHALMOLOGY	4,291	-1	0	0	-1
ORTHOPEDIC SURGERY	2,645	-2	0	1	-1
OTOLARNGOLOGY	735	2	1	0	3
PATHOLOGY	799	0	0	0	0
PEDIATRICS	58	0	0	0	0
PHYSICAL MEDICINE	594	1	0	0	1
PLASTIC SURGERY	274	0	0	0	0
PSYCHIATRY	1,073	0	0	0	0
PULMONARY DISEASE	1,305	-1	0	0	-1
RADIATION ONCOLOGY	1,002	-3	2	0	0
RADIOLOGY	4,230	0	0	0	0
RHEUMATOLOGY	352	1	0	0	1
THORACIC SURGERY	446	-1	0	1	0
UROLOGY	1,540	2	0	0	1
VASCULAR SURGERY	429	-1	0	1	0
Practitioners:					
AUDIOLOGIST	25	-1	-2	1	-1
CHIROPRACTOR	589	0	0	0	0
CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGIST	449	0	0	0	0
CLINICAL SOCIAL WORKER	277	0	0	0	0
NURSE ANESTHETIST	452	0	0	1	1
NURSE PRACTITIONER	434	-1	1	0	0
OPTOMETRY	611	1	0	0	0
ORAL/MAXILLOFACIAL SURGERY	33	8	0	0	8
PHYSICAL/OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY	835	0	0	1	0
PHYSICIANS ASSISTANT	322	0	0	0	0
PODIATRY	1,307	-1	0	0	-1
Suppliers:					
DIAGNOSTIC TESTING FACILITY	728	0	0	0	0
INDEPENDENT LABORATORY	508	2	0	0	1
PORTABLE X-RAY SUPPLIER	82	-1	1	0	0
Other:					
ALL OTHER	54	0	0	0	0
ALL PHYSICIAN FEE SCHEDULE	60,385	0	0	0	0

The statutory methodology for updating physician fee schedule conversion factor is specified in section 1848(d)(4) of the Act. Consistent with

the requirements of section 1848(d)(4) of the Act, as explained in section VI of this final rule, we are reducing the physician fee schedule conversion

factor by approximately 4.5 percent. In table 27, we are showing the estimated change in average payments by specialty based on provisions of this final rule