

rates. If we did not make these changes, hospitals would be paid improperly, access to care may be impeded for beneficiaries, and the preamble would not correctly explain the reasons for changes to policy that were made in response to comments. In most cases, these errors were the result of errors in mathematical calculations, inadvertent publication of language we did not intend to publish, failure to apply policies that we stated in the final rule had been applied, typographic errors, or misstatements of fact. These corrections

do not cause reductions in payment for any other services.

We also find it unnecessary to undertake notice and comment rulemaking procedures because the corrections in this notice are technical in nature, reflecting the proper application of the policies in the November 1, 2002, final rule, and do not change any of the policies therein. Therefore, we find good cause to waive notice and comment procedures and to waive the 30-day delay in effective date.

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Program No. 93.773, Medicare—Hospital Insurance; and Program No. 93.774, Medicare—Supplementary Medical Insurance Program)

Dated: January 29, 2003.

Ann Agnew,

Executive Secretary to the Department.

Note: The following tables are published for the convenience of the reader. These tables reflect corrections made in section II of the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**.

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