



# Association Update

PATMED-CO Monthly Meeting

April 7<sup>th</sup>, 2026

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Colorado Health Care Association  
& Center for Assisted Living

# Payment Rates Coming:

every admission will be a financial consideration to achieve an affordable mix

## Medicare - CMS Issues FY27 SNF Proposed Payment Rule

- 2.4% increase in rate FY2027
- Inadequate to cover inflation and labor competition
- Potential for legislation this year to reintroduce a staffing mandate

## Medicaid

- Across the board cut of 2% to all programs
- Final budget must be passed by July 1<sup>st</sup> FY start
- Further disincentivizes caring for this population

## Managed Care

- 2.48% increase in rate FY2027
- CMS and legislation promoting default enrollment
- Managed Care pays less than conventional Medicare

# What has changed in antipsychotics?

- It's one of the Quality Measures that flags for surveyor scrutiny and can reduce payment.
- CMS thought it was inaccurately capturing actual antipsychotic use, especially because MDS data didn't reflect Managed Care.
- They changed how it's calculated:
  - MDS data (7 day snapshot)
  - **NEW** - Pharmacy Claims data (meds filled while a resident) \*\*\*
  - Excludes schizophrenia, Tourette's, and Huntington's, hospice (claims)

**\*\*\*Ensure timely d/c of orders to prevent unnecessary med fills.**



# More Accurate Picture

**We have a lot of room for improvement.**

We've seen a 2% jump due to the change in QM calculations.

Even so...

2025 Q3 data shows CO SNFs range from 0% use to 72.7% of their long-stay residents

32 of our 210 SNFs are at 30% or higher

CO Average is 20.6% vs. 16.6% national average

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# Advance Directive Reminders

- The [Colorado MOST form](#) is **not required**. It is an option for people who are seriously ill and likely to experience a life-threatening medical event.
- To comply with CMS requirements, you need to:
  - Advise residents of their right to complete advance directives and document that discussion (upon admission). [Acknowledgment of Notice of My Right to State Advance Directives](#)
  - Obtain physician orders related to CPR to align with the resident's preference (as soon as possible after admission).
  - Train staff members on Advance Directives and your related policies and procedures.
- You can provide other options for Advance Directives, as explained on the [CDPHE Advance Care Planning website](#). This site also includes flowcharts to help choose the right form.
  - Medical Durable Power of Attorney
  - Living Will
  - CPR Directive
  - Medical Orders for Scope of Treatment

# Medical Director Deficiency Trends

