



Medicare Changes in 2025: What Podiatrists Need to Know

1. Decrease in Medicare Reimbursement Rates

CMS finalized a 2.83% reduction in the Medicare Physician Fee Schedule (PFS) conversion factor for 2025, lowering it to \$32.3465. This reduction results from the expiration of a temporary increase and minor budget neutrality adjustments. While RVUs remain unchanged, podiatrists should prepare for lower overall reimbursements. [1][2]

2. Emphasis on Accurate Documentation for Routine Foot Care

Routine foot care is under close Medicare scrutiny. Coverage is allowed only when linked to systemic conditions such as diabetes. Podiatrists must use correct CPT/ICD-10 codes, apply proper modifiers (e.g., Q7, Q8, Q9), and ensure documentation supports medical necessity. [3]

3. Telehealth Policy Revisions

As of January 1, 2025, CMS reinstated geographic and originating site restrictions. Only authorized providers may deliver telehealth services. Audio-only visits remain reimbursable when patients opt out of video, provided the provider is equipped for video. [1]

4. Merit-Based Incentive Payment System (MIPS) Updates

The 2025 MIPS performance threshold remains at 75 points. While six new MVPs were introduced, none are specific to podiatry. APMA is actively engaging CMS to develop a podiatry-specific MVP. [4]

5. New Caregiver Training Services

CMS added new codes to support caregiver training in pressure ulcer prevention, wound care, infection control, and behavior strategies. These services are also available via telehealth. [5]

Action Steps for Podiatrists

- Review billing and documentation practices
- Understand and adapt to telehealth changes
- Monitor MIPS and MVP developments
- Leverage caregiver training codes to support extended care

Sources

1. [1] CMS Unveils 2025 Medicare Physician Fee Schedule Final Rule - APMA
2. [2] CMS Releases CY 2025 MPFS Proposed Rule - APMA
3. [3] 2025 Podiatry Billing Updates Guide - iMagnum Healthcare
4. [4] APMA Comments on CY 2025 MPFS/QPP - APMA
5. [5] CY 2025 Medicare PFS Final Rule Fact Sheet – CMS

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