

# CMS Issues 2022 MPFS Final Rule

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November 17, 2021

CMS released the CY 2022 Medicare Physician Fee Schedule (MPFS) Final Rule. The rule finalized several proposals:

- ⇒ Added telehealth provisions that went into effect during the COVID-19 public health emergency will continue to be covered at least through December 31, 2023.
- ⇒ Physician assistants may directly bill Medicare for services they provide as allowed by statute.
- ⇒ The payment penalty phase of the Appropriate Use Criteria (AUC) program will begin no earlier than January 1, 2023 and may be further delayed depending on when the COVID-19 public health emergency is ended.

Additionally, as noted by the APMA, although the rule puts forward a CY 2022 MPFS Conversion Factor (CF) of \$33.59 (a budget neutrality adjustment to the original CF of only 0.10%), the overall drop in the CF from CY 2021 is still over 3.7% due to the expiration of the Congressional 2021 payment increase of +3.75%. Other than the change in the CF, podiatric physicians will see a +1% impact to their overall compensation.