[DISCUSSION DRAFT]

1 TITLE ____MEDICARE POST-

2 ACUTE REFORM PROPOSALS

3 (JUNE 14 HEARING)

4 SEC. _0. LISTING OF PROPOSALS.

5 The following are Medicare post-acute reform pro-

6 posals included in this draft:

Sec. __0. Listing of proposals.

Sec. 1. PAC market basket cuts.

- Sec. 2. Site neutral payment for certain medical conditions treated in inpatient rehabilitation facilities.
- Sec. __3. Revising inpatient rehabilitation facility classification criteria by applying a 75 percent rule.

Sec. __4. Skilled nursing facility readmissions reduction program.

Sec. 5. Post-acute care (PAC) bundle prospective payment system.

7 SEC. 1. PAC MARKET BASKET CUTS.

8 (a) REVISION OF HOME HEALTH MARKET BASKET

9 UPDATES FOR FISCAL YEARS 2014 THROUGH 2023.—

10 Section 1895(b)(3)(B)(ii) of the Social Security Act (42

11 U.S.C. 1395fff(b)(3)(B)(ii)) is amended—

12 (1) by striking "and" at the end of subclause

- 13 (IV);
- 14 (2) in subclause (V)—
- 15 (A) by inserting "(before 2014)" after
 16 "any subsequent year"; and
- 17 (B) by striking the period at the end and18 inserting a semicolon; and

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1	(3) by adding at the end the following new sub-
2	clauses:
3	"(VI) each fiscal year beginning
4	with 2014 and ending with 2023, the
5	home health market basket percentage
6	increase minus 1.1 percentage points,
7	but in no case less than zero; and
8	"(VII) any subsequent year, the
9	home health market basket percentage
10	increase.".
11	(b) Revision of Skilled Nursing Facility Mar-
12	KET BASKET UPDATES FOR FISCAL YEARS 2014
13	THROUGH 2023.—Section 1888(e)(5)(B)(ii) of the Social
14	Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395yy(e)(5)(B)(ii)) is amended
15	by striking "the Secretary shall reduce" and inserting
16	"the Secretary shall first (for each of fiscal years 2014
17	through 2013) reduce such percentage by 1.1 percentage
18	points (but in no case to less than zero), and then shall
19	further reduce".
20	(c) REVISION OF INPATIENT REHABILITATION FA-
21	CILITY PERCENTAGE INCREASE FOR FISCAL YEARS 2014
22	Through 2023.—Section $1886(j)(3)(C)(i)$ of the Social
23	Security Act (42 U.S.C. $1395ww(j)(3)(C)(i)$) is amended
24	by adding at the end the following new sentence: "The
25	increase factor to be applied under this subparagraph for

each of fiscal years 2014 through 2023 shall be reduced
 by 1.1 percentage points, but in no case to less than
 zero.".

4 (d) REVISION OF LONG-TERM CARE HOSPITAL MAR5 KET BASKET UPDATES FOR RATE YEARS 2014 THROUGH
6 2023.—Section 1886(m) of the Social Security Act (42)
7 U.S.C. 1395ww(m)) is amended—

8 (1) in paragraph (3)(A), by striking ", shall be 9 reduced" and inserting "shall first be reduced (for 10 each of rate years 2014 through 2023) by 1.1 per-11 centage points (but in no case to less than zero) and 12 then shall be further reduced"; and

13 (2) by adding at the end the following new14 paragraph:

15 "(6) USE OF TERMINOLOGY.—In this sub16 section and with respect to discharges occurring on
17 or after October 1, 2010, the term 'rate year' means
18 fiscal year.".

19 SEC. _2. SITE NEUTRAL PAYMENT FOR CERTAIN MEDICAL

20

CONDITIONS TREATED IN INPATIENT REHA-

21 **BILITATION FACILITIES.**

22 Section 1886(j) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C.
23 1395ww(j)) is amended—

24 (1) in paragraph (8) -

1	(A) in subparagraph (C), by striking
2	"and" at the end;
3	(B) in subparagraph (D), by striking the
4	period at the end and inserting ", and"; and
5	(C) by adding at the end the following new
6	subparagraph:
7	"(E) modified standardized payment
8	amounts under paragraph (8).";
9	(2) by redesignating paragraph (8) as para-
10	graph (9) ; and
11	(3) by inserting after paragraph (7) the fol-
12	lowing new paragraph:
13	"(8) Special payment rule for certain
14	MEDICAL CONDITIONS.—
15	"(A) Application of site neutral pay-
16	MENT RATES IN CERTAIN CASES.——
17	"(i) IN GENERAL.—Subject to clause
18	(ii), in the case of discharges occurring on
19	or after October 1, 2013, in lieu of the
20	payment amount (as determined pursuant
21	to the preceding provisions of this sub-
22	section) that would otherwise be applicable
23	under this subsection, other than para-
24	graph (7), the Secretary shall substitute,
25	for payment units with respect to an appli-

1	cable medical condition (as defined in sub-
2	paragraph (D)(i)) that is treated in an in-
3	patient rehabilitation facility, the modified
4	standardized payment amount determined
5	under subparagraph (B), as adjusted
6	under subparagraph (C).
7	"(ii) LIMITATION.—The provisions of
8	this paragraph shall not apply to the pay-
9	ment for an applicable medical condition if
10	such application would result in an in-
11	crease in the payment amount that would
12	otherwise apply to such condition under
13	this subsection (determined without regard
14	to this paragraph).
15	"(B) Modified payment amount.—
16	"(i) IN GENERAL.—The modified
17	standardized amount determined under
18	this subparagraph for an applicable med-
19	ical condition shall be based on the sum of
20	the following:
21	"(I) An amount equal to the av-
22	erage per stay skilled nursing facility
23	payment rate for the applicable med-

ical condition (as determined under

clause (ii)).

24

"(II) An amount equal to 25 per-1 2 cent of the difference between the overhead costs (as defined in subpara-3 4 graph (D)(ii)) component of the average inpatient rehabilitation facility per 5 6 stay payment amount for the applica-7 ble medical condition (as determined 8 under the preceding paragraphs of 9 this subsection) and the overhead 10 costs component of the average per 11 stay skilled nursing facility payment 12 rate for such condition (as determined 13 under clause (ii)). 14 "(III) An amount equal to 33 15 percent of the difference between the 16 patient care costs (as defined in sub-17 paragraph (D)(iii)) component of the 18 average inpatient rehabilitation facil-19 ity per stay payment amount for the 20 applicable medical condition (as deter-21 mined under the preceding para-22 graphs of this subsection) and the pa-23 tient care costs component of the av-

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payment rate for such condition (as determined under clause (ii)).

"(ii) Methodology.—For purposes 3 4 of clause (i) only, the Secretary shall de-5 velop and implement a methodology to convert skilled nursing facility payment rates 6 7 for applicable medical conditions, as deter-8 mined under section 1888(e), to average 9 per-stay skilled nursing facility payment rates for each such condition that reflect a 10 11 recent rebasing or recalculation of such 12 rates based on the most recently available 13 information on skilled nursing facility use 14 and costs.

15 "(C) Adjustments.—

16 "(i) Application of IRF adjust-17 MENTS.—The Secretary shall adjust the 18 amount determined under subparagraph 19 (B) for an applicable medical condition 20 using the adjustments to the prospective 21 payment rates for inpatient rehabilitation facilities described in paragraphs (2), (3), 22 23 (4), and (6).

24 "(ii) UPDATE FOR INFLATION.—Ex25 cept in the case of a fiscal year for which

1	the Secretary rebases the amounts deter-
2	mined under subparagraph (B) for applica-
3	ble medical conditions pursuant to clause
4	(iii), the Secretary shall annually update
5	the amounts determined under subpara-
6	graph (B) for each applicable medical con-
7	dition by the increase factor for inpatient
8	rehabilitation facilities (as described in
9	paragraph (3)(C)).
10	"(iii) Rebasing.—The Secretary shall
11	periodically (but in no case less than once
12	every 5 years) rebase the amounts deter-
13	mined under subparagraph (B) for applica-
14	ble medical conditions using the method-
15	ology described in such clause (ii) of such
16	subparagraph and the most recent and
17	complete cost report and claims data avail-
18	able. At the same time as such rebasing,
19	for purposes of computing amounts in sub-
20	paragraph (B), the Secretary shall also
21	rebase the average inpatient rehabilitation
22	facility payment amounts as otherwise de-
23	termined in this subsection.
24	"(D) DEFINITIONS.—In this paragraph:

1	"(i) Applicable medical condi-
2	TION.—The term 'applicable medical condi-
3	tion' means—
4	"(I) unilateral knee replacement;
5	"(II) unilateral hip replacement;
6	"(III) unilateral hip fracture; and
7	"(IV) other conditions as deter-
8	mined by the Secretary.
9	"(ii) Overhead costs.—The term
10	'overhead costs' means, with respect to in-
11	patient rehabilitation facilities and skilled
12	nursing facilities, those Medicare-allowable
13	costs that are contained in the General
14	Service cost centers of the Medicare cost
15	reports for inpatient rehabilitation facilities
16	and for skilled nursing facilities, respec-
17	tively, as determined by the Secretary.
18	"(iii) PATIENT CARE COSTS.—The
19	term 'patient care costs' means total Medi-
20	care-allowable costs minus overhead
21	costs.".

1 SEC. __3. REVISING INPATIENT REHABILITATION FACILITY 2 CLASSIFICATION CRITERIA BY APPLYING A 75 3 PERCENT RULE.

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 5005(a) of the Deficit Re-5 duction Act of 2005 (Public Law 109–171; 42 U.S.C. 1395ww note), as amended by section 115(b) of the Medi-6 7 care, Medicaid, and SCHIP Extension Act of 2007 (Public Law 110–173), is amended by striking "the 60 percent 8 9 compliance rate that became effective for cost reporting periods beginning on or after July 1, 2006" and inserting 10 11 "75 percent".

12 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by
13 subsection (a) shall apply for cost reporting periods begin14 ning on or after October 1, 2013.

15 SEC. _4. SKILLED NURSING FACILITY READMISSIONS RE16 DUCTION PROGRAM.

17 Section 1888 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C.
18 1395yy) is amended by adding at the end the following
19 new subsection:

20 "(g) Skilled Nursing Facility Readmissions21 Reduction Program.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—With respect to per diem
payments for each day of covered skilled nursing
services (as defined in subsection (e)(2)(A)) furnished by a skilled nursing facility occurring during
a fiscal year beginning on or after October 1, 2017,

1	in order to account for excess readmissions to a hos-
2	pital for individuals who received such services from
3	a skilled nursing facility, the Secretary shall adjust
4	payments in an amount equal to the product of—
5	"(A) the per diem amount (as defined in
6	paragraph (2)) for the facility for the fiscal
7	year; and
8	"(B) the adjustment factor (described in
9	paragraph $(3)(A)$ for the facility and fiscal
10	year.
11	"(2) PER DIEM AMOUNT DEFINED.—The term
12	'per diem amount' means, with respect to a skilled
13	nursing facility for a fiscal year, the unadjusted
14	Federal per diem rate that would otherwise be made
15	under subsection (e) if this subsection did not apply.
16	"(3) Adjustment factor.—
17	"(A) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of para-
18	graph (1), the adjustment factor under this
19	paragraph for a skilled nursing facility for a fis-
20	cal year is equal to the greater of—
21	"(i) the ratio described in subpara-
22	graph (B) for the skilled nursing facility
23	for the applicable period (as defined in
24	paragraph $(5)(C)$) for such fiscal year; or

	1-
1	"(ii) the floor adjustment factor speci-
2	fied in subparagraph (C).
3	"(B) RATIO.—The ratio described in this
4	subparagraph for a skilled nursing facility for
5	an applicable period is equal to 1 minus the
6	ratio of—
7	"(i) the aggregate payments for ex-
8	cess readmissions (as defined in paragraph
9	(4)(A)) to all applicable hospitals for the
10	applicable period; and
11	"(ii) the aggregate payments to the
12	skilled nursing facility for such applicable
13	period.
14	"(C) FLOOR ADJUSTMENT FACTOR.—For
15	purposes of subparagraph (A), the floor adjust-
16	ment factor specified in this subparagraph is
17	0.97.
18	"(4) Aggregate payments for excess re-
19	ADMISSIONS.—For purposes of this subsection:
20	"(A) Aggregate payments for excess
21	READMISSIONS.—The term 'aggregate payments
22	for excess readmissions' means, for an applica-
23	ble period for a skilled nursing facility, the sum
24	for applicable conditions (as defined in para-

	10
1	graph $(5)(A)$ of the product for each applicable
2	condition for all applicable hospitals of—
3	"(i) the inpatient hospital payment
4	(as defined in subparagraph (B)) for the
5	applicable hospital involved; and
6	"(ii) the number of admissions for
7	such condition in cases where an individual
8	received services furnished by a skilled
9	nursing facility during such applicable pe-
10	riod and was subsequently admitted to the
11	applicable hospital within a period specified
12	by the Secretary.
13	"(B) INPATIENT HOSPITAL PAYMENT.—
14	The term 'inpatient hospital payment' means
15	the payment amount made to a hospital under
16	this title for inpatient hospital services (as de-
17	fined in section 1861(b)) for such applicable pe-
18	riod for an applicable condition.
19	"(5) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this sub-
20	section:
21	"(A) APPLICABLE CONDITION.—The term
22	'applicable condition' means a condition or pro-
23	cedure or a set of conditions and procedures se-
24	lected by the Secretary that are used in the

hospital readmissions program under section
 1886(q).

"(B) APPLICABLE PERIOD.—The term 'ap-3 4 plicable period' means, with respect to a fiscal 5 year, such period as the Secretary shall specify. 6 "(C) READMISSION.—The term 'readmis-7 sion' means an admission of an individual to an 8 applicable hospital from a skilled nursing facil-9 ity in cases in which that individual has pre-10 viously been discharged from an applicable hos-11 pital within a period specified by the Secretary. 12 "(D) APPLICABLE HOSPITAL.—The term 13 'applicable hospital' means a hospital described 14 in section 1886(q)(5)(C). 15 "(6) Reporting skilled nursing facility 16 SPECIFIC INFORMATION.— 17 "(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall 18 make information available to the public re-19 garding readmission rates of each skilled nurs-20 ing facility. 21 "(B) OPPORTUNITY TO REVIEW AND SUB-22 MIT CORRECTIONS.—The Secretary shall ensure 23 that a skilled nursing facility has the oppor-24 tunity to review, and submit corrections for, the 25 information used to determine the readmissions

1	rates to be made public with respect to the
2	skilled nursing facility under subparagraph (A)
3	before such information is made public.
4	"(C) WEBSITE.—Such information shall be
5	posted on the Skilled Nursing Facility Compare
6	Internet website in an easily understandable
7	format.
8	"(7) LIMITATIONS ON REVIEW.—There shall be
9	no administrative or judicial review under section
10	1869, section 1878, or otherwise of the following:
11	"(A) The determination of the inpatient
12	hospital payment amount.
13	"(B) The methodology for determining the
14	adjustment factor under paragraph (3), includ-
15	ing aggregate payments for excess readmissions
16	under paragraph (4)(A), and aggregate pay-
17	ments to the skilled nursing facility under para-
18	graph (3)(B), and applicable periods and appli-
19	cable conditions determined under paragraph
20	
20	(5).
20	(5). "(C) The measures of readmissions as de-

1	SEC5. POST-ACUTE CARE (PAC) BUNDLE PROSPECTIVE
2	PAYMENT SYSTEM.
3	Title XVIII of the Social Security Act is amended by
4	adding at the end the following new section:
5	"POST-ACUTE CARE (PAC) BUNDLE PROSPECTIVE
6	PAYMENT SYSTEM
7	"Sec. 1899B. (a) Establishment of System.—
8	"(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall estab-
9	lish a prospective payment system (in this section re-
10	ferred to as the 'PAC payment system') for payment
11	under parts A and B for bundles of post-acute care
12	services (as defined in subsection (b), in this section
13	referred to as 'PAC bundles') provided to a PAC
14	beneficiary (as defined in subsection $(b)(1)$) after a
15	hospitalization in order to improve the coordination,
16	quality, and efficiency of health care services under
17	such parts. Payment for PAC services under the
18	PAC payment system supercedes the payments that
19	would otherwise be made for such services under
20	such parts.
21	"(2) Implementation.—
22	"(A) IN GENERAL.—The PAC payment
23	system shall be established to be applied to
24	services furnished in fiscal years beginning with

25 fiscal year 2018.

1 "(B) TRANSITION.—In implementing the 2 PAC payment system, the Secretary may provide for a transition during which a portion of 3 4 such payment is based on the payment system 5 in effect for PAC services without regard to this 6 section, but only if such transition does not re-7 sult in aggregate payments under this title that 8 exceed the aggregate payments that would be 9 made if such a transition did not occur. 10 "(3) USE OF RESULTS OF PILOT PROGRAMS 11 AND INITIATIVES.— In developing the PAC payment 12 system, the Secretary shall take into account the re-13 sults of— 14 "(A) pilot programs conducted under sec-15 tion 1886D; and "(B) the 'Bundled Payments for Care Im-16 17 provement Initiative (BPCI)' that is being ad-18 ministered, as of the date of the enactment of 19 this section, through the Center for Medicare 20 and Medicaid Innovation. 21 "(b) DEFINITIONS.—In this section: 22 "(1) PAC BENEFICIARY.—The term 'PAC ben-23 eficiary' means an individual who-"(A) is entitled to, or enrolled for, benefits 24

25 under part A and enrolled for benefits under

1	part B, but not enrolled under part C or a
2	PACE program under section 1894; and
3	"(B) is admitted to a hospital for a PAC
4	condition.
5	"(2) PAC CONDITION.—The term 'PAC condi-
6	tion' means such conditions as the Secretary shall
7	specify consistent with satisfying the requirement of
8	subsection $(c)(5)$. In specifying such conditions, the
9	Secretary shall give priority to the conditions that
10	were made available under the initiative referred to
11	in subsection $(a)(3)(B)$.
12	"(3) Post-acute care services; pac serv-
13	ICES.—The terms 'post-acute care services' and
14	'PAC services' mean the following:
15	"(A) Acute care inpatient services.
16	"(B) Physicians' services delivered in and
17	outside of an acute care hospital setting.
18	"(C) Outpatient hospital services, including
19	emergency department services.
20	"(D) Post-acute care, including home
21	health services, skilled nursing services, inpa-
22	tient rehabilitation services, and inpatient hos-
23	pital services furnished by a long-term care hos-
24	pital.

1	"(E) Other services the Secretary deter-
2	mines appropriate.
3	"(4) Post-acute care provider; pac pro-
4	VIDER.—The terms 'post-acute care provider' and
5	'PAC provider' mean each of the following:
6	"(A) A home health agency.
7	"(B) A skilled nursing facility.
8	"(C) A rehabilitation facility.
9	"(D) A long-term care hospital.
10	"(5) PAC BUNDLE PERIOD.—The term 'PAC
11	bundle period' means, with respect to a PAC bundle
12	for treatment of a PAC condition, a period specified
13	by the Secretary for such bundle and condition.
14	"(c) PAYMENT METHODOLOGY.—The PAC payment
15	system shall be designed consistent with the following:
16	"(1) PAYMENT BASED ON PAC BUNDLES AND
17	PAC BUNDLE PERIODS.—Payment shall be made
18	under the system—
19	"(A) for a PAC bundle consisting of com-
20	prehensive PAC services for treatment of a
21	PAC condition covering a PAC bundle period;
22	and
23	"(B) to the PAC provider that initially
24	provides services after the hospitalization de-
25	scribed in subsection $(b)(1)(B)$.

"(2) Adjustments to bundled payment.— 1 2 In establishing the payment amount for a PAC bun-3 dle, the Secretary may consider the number, type, 4 and duration of visits provided during the PAC bun-5 dle period, the mix of services provided within that 6 bundle and period and their cost, and patient char-7 acteristics and other factors that are designed to 8 take into account variations in treatment costs with-9 in a PAC bundle.

"(3) 10 ESTABLISHMENT OF BASE PAYMENT 11 RATES TO PRODUCE SAVINGS.—The payment rates 12 established for PAC bundles shall be set to yield, in 13 the aggregate, a reduction in the spending otherwise 14 made for PAC services included in such bundles over 15 the 3-fiscal-year period beginning with fiscal year 16 2018 of 2.85 percent. The payment rates established 17 for PAC bundles for such period shall form the basis 18 for the payment rates to be used in succeeding fiscal 19 years.

20 "(4) ANNUAL UPDATES.—The payment rates
21 for PAC bundles shall be updated each fiscal year
22 based on a market basket of the PAC services in23 cluded within PAC bundles.

24 "(5) COVERAGE OF 50 PERCENT OF TOTAL PAY25 MENTS.—The PAC conditions and PAC bundles, col-

lectively, shall be selected by the Secretary in a man ner so that payment for at least 50 percent of all
 PAC services provided under this title during each
 fiscal year are made under the PAC payment system.

6 "(6) ROLE OF INITIAL PAC PROVIDER.—The
7 initial PAC provider described in subparagraph
8 (A)(ii) shall be responsible for furnishing (or direct9 ing the furnishing) of PAC services included in the
10 PAC bundle.

11 "(d) ACTUARIALLY Equivalent BENEFICIARY 12 COST-SHARING.—With respect to a PAC bundle under this section, the Secretary shall establish a level of bene-13 ficiary cost-sharing (which may be in the form of coinsur-14 15 ance or a copayment) that is actuarially equivalent to the 16 aggregate levels of coinsurance that would have applied 17 to such the PAC services included in the bundle if this section did not apply and that shall supersede any bene-18 ficiary coinsurance or copayments (but not deductibles) 19 20 otherwise applicable under this title with respect to such 21 services.

- 22 "(e) Application of Quality Measures.—
- 23 "(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall estab24 lish quality measures (including quality measures of
 25 process, outcome, and structure) related to care pro-

1	vided by PAC providers and paid under the PAC
2	payment system. Quality measures established under
3	this paragraph shall include measures of the fol-
4	lowing:
5	"(A) Functional status improvement.
6	"(B) Reducing rates of avoidable hospital
7	readmissions.
8	"(C) Rates of discharge to the community.
9	"(D) Rates of admission to an emergency
10	room after a hospitalization.
11	"(E) Incidence of health care acquired in-
12	fections.
13	"(F) Efficiency measures.
14	"(G) Measures of patient-centeredness of
15	care.
16	"(H) Measures of patient perception of
17	care.
18	"(I) Other measures, including measures
19	of patient outcomes, determined appropriate by
20	the Secretary.
21	"(2) Application of current measures.—
22	In establishing such measures, the Secretary shall
23	take into account the quality measures established
24	under section $1886D(c)(4)$ as well as (to the extent
25	determined to be applicable) quality measures de-

scribed in sections 1895(b)(3)(B)(v)(II), 1819(i),
 1886(j)(7), and 1886(m)(5).

3 "(3) REPORTING ON QUALITY MEASURES.—
4 "(A) IN GENERAL.—A PAC provider shall
5 submit data to the Secretary on quality meas6 ures established under this subsection during

each fiscal year of its participation under this
section, beginning with fiscal year 2018, in a
form and manner specified by the Secretary
subject to subparagraph (B).

11 "(B) SUBMISSION OF DATA THROUGH 12 ELECTRONIC HEALTH RECORD.—To the extent 13 practicable, the Secretary shall specify that 14 data on measures be submitted under subpara-15 graph (A) through the use of a qualified electronic health record (as defined in section 16 17 3000(13) of the Public Health Service Act) in 18 a manner specified by the Secretary.

19 "(C) PUBLIC AVAILABILITY OF DATA SUB20 MITTED.—

21 "(i) PROCEDURES.—The Secretary
22 shall establish procedures for making the
23 data on measures submitted under this
24 paragraph available to the public.

1	"(ii) Posting on CMS website
2	Under such procedures, the Secretary shall
3	include on the Internet website of the Cen-
4	ters for Medicare & Medicaid Services data
5	on quality measures that relate to PAC
6	services in PAC bundles furnished by PAC
7	providers.
8	"(iii) Provider opportunity to re-
9	VIEW DATA BEING MADE PUBLIC.—Such
10	procedures shall ensure that a PAC pro-
11	vider has the opportunity to review the
12	data that are to be made public with re-
13	spect to that provider before such data are
14	made available to the public.
15	"(f) WAIVER.—The Secretary may waive such provi-
16	sions of this title and title XI as may be necessary to carry
17	out this section.
18	"(g) INDEPENDENT EVALUATION AND REPORTS.—
19	"(1) INDEPENDENT EVALUATION.—The Sec-
20	retary shall conduct an independent evaluation of
21	the PAC payment system, including the extent to
22	which the system has—
23	"(A) improved results on quality measures
24	established under subsection $(e)(1)$;
25	"(B) improved health outcomes;

1	"(C) improved PAC beneficiary access to
2	care; and
3	"(D) reduced spending under this title.
4	"(2) Reports.—
5	"(A) INTERIM REPORT.—Not later than 2
6	years after the date of initial implementation of
7	the PAC payment system, the Secretary shall
8	submit to Congress a report on the initial re-
9	sults of the independent evaluation conducted
10	under paragraph (1).
11	"(B) FINAL REPORT.—Not later than 3
12	years after the date of initial implementation of
13	such system, the Secretary shall submit to Con-
14	gress a report on the final results of the inde-
15	pendent evaluation conducted under paragraph
16	(1).".