Friday, March 5, 2010

Medicare Fee Schedule: What’s the RUC Got to Do With It?

MODERATOR

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SPEAKERS

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Barbara Levy, MD, is the chair of the AMA/Specialty Society Relative Value Scale Update Committee (RUC). She also served as a RUC member for the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG) from 2000 to 2009. Board certified in obstetrics and gynecology, Dr. Levy is the medical director for the Women’s Health and Breast Center, Franciscan Health Systems, Federal Way, Washington, and in private practice in gynecology, surgery, and infertility. Her research interests include endoscopic surgery, complications and cost-effectiveness of electrosurgery, menopause and hormone replacement, osteoporosis, pelvic pain and surgical outcomes and quality. Dr. Levy received her bachelor’s degree from Princeton University. She completed medical school at the University of California, San Diego, and her internship and residency at the University of Oregon Health Sciences Center.
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Jonathan Blum is the director of the Center for Medicare Management (CMM) in the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), which is responsible for the regulation and payment of Medicare fee-for-service providers. Over the course of his career, Mr. Blum has become expert in the gamut of CMS programs. He served as an advisor to Senate Committee on Finance members and its current chairman, Sen. Max Baucus (D-MT), where he worked on prescription drug and Medicare Advantage policies during the development of the Medicare Modernization Act. He focused on Medicare as a program analyst at the White House Office of Management and Budget. Prior to joining CMS, Mr. Blum was a vice president at Avalere Health, overseeing its Medicaid and Long-Term Care Practice. Most recently, he served as a health policy advisor to the Obama-Biden Transition Team. He holds a master's degree from the Kennedy School of Government and a BA degree from the University of Pennsylvania.