

Eli's Rehab Report

Industry Notes: Use of Standardized Data Across Post-Acute Care Settings On The Horizon

You can look forward to standardization of data soon, which should come as a relief to providers across the board. A bill called the Improving Medicare Post-Acute Care Transformation (IMPACT) Act of 2014 (H.R. 4994/S. 2553) was recently introduced in both the House and Senate.

"If it becomes law, IMPACT would instruct the **US Department of Health and Human Services** (HHS) to standardize patient assessment data, quality, and resource use measures for PAC providers including home health agencies (HHAs), skilled nursing facilities (SNFs), inpatient rehabilitation facilities (IRFs), and long-term care hospitals (LTCHs)," says a June 30 **American Physical Therapy Association** (APTA) press release.

Areas which would be covered if the Act passes into law would include standardized patient assessment data at times of admission and discharge; new quality measures including functional status, skin integrity, medication reconciliation, incidence of major falls, and patient preference regarding treatment and discharge; Medicare spending per beneficiary, discharge to community, and hospitalization rates of potentially preventable readmissions etc.