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BKD National Health Care Group

The background of the slide features a close-up of a medical device with a silver, knurled knob and a white plastic component. The background is a light blue grid with a faint ECG (heart rate) line overlaid on it.

# FEDERALLY QUALIFIED HEALTH CENTERS (FQHCS)

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## An Overview

# FQHC BACKGROUND

- Receives grant under Section 330 of the Public Health Service Act (PHS)
- Safety net providers that primarily engage in providing services typically furnished in an outpatient clinic
- Various types including (not limited to): community health centers, migrant health centers and health care for the homeless centers
- Must serve a medically underserved area or population
- Required to offer a sliding fee scale
- Required to have a governing board of directors



# FQHC BACKGROUND

- Related organization types
  - Certain tribal organizations & FQHC Look-Alikes (an organization that meets PHS Section 330 eligibility requirements, but does not receive grant funding)
- Health Human Services (HHS)
  - Health Resources and Services Administration
    - Bureau of Primary Health Care
- Program purpose is to enhance the provision of primary care services in medically-underserved urban and rural communities

# REIMBURSEMENT SYSTEM

- Complex
- Medicare
  - Flat amount per face-to-face encounter under a Prospective Payment System (PPS)
  - Cost report
- Medicaid
  - Varies by State
- Commercial
  - Typically Fee-for-Service (FFS)

# Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs)



Source: Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services; U.S. Department of Health and Human Services; October 2015.

Note: Alaska and Hawaii not shown to scale



# CHALLENGES OR OPPORTUNITIES

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# GENERALLY SPEAKING

- Difficulty accessing specialty care for patients
- Patients challenged in obtaining and complying
- Infrastructure
- Capacity concerns



# **MEDICARE TELEHEALTH SERVICES: CURRENT STATE**

- FQHCs authorized as originating sites only
- Are not authorized to serve as a distant site for telehealth consultations
  - May not bill or include the cost of a visit on the cost report
- Originating site facility fee will be subject to Part B deductible
- Telecommunications system
  - Interactive audio & visual
  - Real time
  - Patient must be present
- Utilize HCPCs code Q3014 & 780 revenue code

# PARTNERSHIP

- Accustomed to collaboration
- Experienced in dealing with various funding/payer streams
- Seeking solutions for patients
- Mission minded often = Innovation

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