

THE DOWNSTREAM EFFECTS OF MEDICARE PHYSICAL THERAPY CUTS

In the 2020 Medicare Physician Fee Schedule Final Rule, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services indicated it intends to impose an estimated 8 percent payment cut in 2021. Older adults rely on physical therapy and occupational therapy services to prevent and manage chronic pain, avoid surgery, and improve their overall quality of life. This cut, coupled with a series of payment reductions in recent years, will lead to many negative consequences for American seniors and healthcare delivery system costs.



8 PERCENT
MEDICARE
CUT

NO NEW
MEDICARE CUTS

OPIOID
MISUSE

INCREASED
INFECTIONS

MORE
SENIOR
FALLS

MORE
ER VISITS

LONGER
HOSPITAL
STAYS

AVOIDABLE
SURGERIES

HIGHER
COSTS

DANGER AHEAD!
MORE MEDICARE CUTS IN 2021

#FightTheCut

APTQI
ALLIANCE FOR PHYSICAL THERAPY
QUALITY AND INNOVATION

APTA
American Physical Therapy Association