



Client Alert



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Medicare Physician Fee Cut Delayed—For Now...

On November 30, 2010, President Obama signed the Physician Payment and Therapy Relief Act,¹ a bill that will postpone the 23 percent Medicare physician payment cut for one month and will extend the 2.2 percent update to the Medicare Physician Fee Schedule through the end of 2010.

The payment cut was previously scheduled to take effect on December 1, 2010. The delay is intended to give lawmakers time to come up with a long-term plan for the physician payment system.

This is not the first time there has been a delay, as Congress has postponed or rescinded physician payment cuts in Medicare fees a number of times. President Obama and the American Medical Association are seeking additional time and continue to push for a one-year postponement of the payment cuts, beginning January 1, 2011. Stay tuned.

¹ H.R. 5712, 111th Con. (2010)

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