



ALLIANCE FOR
PATIENT CARE

Wound Care Resources & CMS Policy Guide

*Your comprehensive resource for navigating the
2026 Medicare changes and accessing essential
wound care information*



Quick Reference: Key Dates & Deadlines

URGENT: Public comment period for CMS-1832-P closes September 12, 2025

Important Timeline:

- January 2026: Skin substitute LCDs take effect
- January 1, 2026: New CY 2026 Physician Fee Schedule begins
- September 17, 2025: AFPC Webinar on audit defense and compliance

Official CMS & Government Resources

Primary Policy Documents

CMS Fact Sheet - CY 2026 Medicare Physician Fee Schedule

- High-level overview of proposed changes affecting wound care and skin substitutes
- Details on public comment periods
- Link: [cms.gov/newsroom/fact-sheets/calendar-year-cy-2026-medicare-physician-fee-schedule-pfs-proposed-rule-cms-1832-p](https://www.cms.gov/newsroom/fact-sheets/calendar-year-cy-2026-medicare-physician-fee-schedule-pfs-proposed-rule-cms-1832-p)

Federal Register Notice (CMS-1832-P)

- Complete text of the proposed rule
- Detailed explanations of wound care reimbursement changes
- Evidence requirements and comment submission instructions
- Link: [federalregister.gov/documents/2025/07/16/2025-13271/medicare-and-medicaid-programs-cy-2026-payment-policies-under-the-physician-fee-schedule-and-other](https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2025/07/16/2025-13271/medicare-and-medicaid-programs-cy-2026-payment-policies-under-the-physician-fee-schedule-and-other)



Official Comment Portal (Regulations.gov)

- Submit public comments electronically before September 12, 2025
- Read comments submitted by other stakeholders
- Docket ID: CMS-2025-0304
- Link: [regulations.gov/docket/CMS-2025-0304](https://www.regulations.gov/docket/CMS-2025-0304)

Additional CMS Resources

CMS Physician Fee Schedule Homepage

- Central hub for all PFS updates and downloads
- **Link:** [cms.gov/medicare/payment/fee-schedules/physician](https://www.cms.gov/medicare/payment/fee-schedules/physician)

CMS Press Release

- Key goals including reducing waste through skin substitute reclassification
- **Link:** [cms.gov/newsroom/press-releases/cms-proposes-physician-payment-rule-significantly-cut-spending-waste-enhance-quality-measures-and](https://www.cms.gov/newsroom/press-releases/cms-proposes-physician-payment-rule-significantly-cut-spending-waste-enhance-quality-measures-and)



Industry Analysis

Expert Analysis & Legal Insights

Shared Health Services Blog

- Detailed analysis of wound care billing impacts
- Covers skin substitutes and hyperbaric oxygen therapy changes
- Provider implementation tips
- **Link:** sharedhealthservices.com/post/cms-proposes-major-reimbursement-shifts-for-skin-substitutes-and-outpatient-services-in-2026

Benesch Law Analysis

- Legal implications for providers, manufacturers, and payers
- Covers both outpatient and physician office settings
- **Link:** beneschlaw.com/resources/cms-proposes-overhaul-of-skin-substitute-reimbursement-policy-beginning-january-2026-implications-for-providers-manufacturers-and-payers-in-both-outpatient-and-physician-office-settings.html

Cardinal Health Policy Summary

- Focus on care quality improvements and waste reduction
- Comprehensive policy breakdowns
- **Link:** cardinalhealth.com/en/services/specialty-physician-practice/resources/healthcare-policy/2026-physician-fee-schedule.html



Industry-Specific Resources

Wachler & Associates Blog

- Urges wound care providers to submit comments by September 12, 2025
- **Link:** wachlerblog.com/cy-2026-physician-fee-schedule-proposed-overhaul-of-skin-substitutes/

MiMedx - Skin Substitute LCDs

- Information on new LCDs for diabetic foot ulcers and venous leg ulcers
- Compliance resources
- **Link:** mimedx.com/skin-substitute-lcds/

Rebirth Advanced Healing

- Warnings about potential access issues due to reimbursement cuts
- **Link:** rebirthheals.com/learning-center/cms-1832p-release/



Educational Events & Webinars

Upcoming Opportunities

AFPC Webinar: Safeguarding Your Wound Care Practice: Clawback Protection, Audit Defense & LCD Compliance

- **Date:** September 17, 2025
- **Topics:** Clawback protection, audit defense, LCD compliance
- **Featured Speaker:** Beau Jeppesen, CEO of Shoreline Administration
- **Focus:** Navigating CMS changes and protecting your practice
- **Link:** allianceforpatientcare.com/webinar-september172025/

Past AFPC Webinar Recordings

The Future of Skin Substitutes

- Featuring: Blake Bourque | CEO, Regenaskin Solutions
- **Link:** youtu.be/jaw64KmtOPQ?si=9CNdCCJerGNrBsuz

Updates From the Front Lines of Wound Care

- Featuring: Ivan Islamaj, PA-C, MMS | Co-Founder & CEO, iCare Mobile Medicine
- **Link:** youtu.be/Cg9EBybVFXk?si=fp4tyPMOUe7IWGdg

PCR Testing and Wound Care: Advanced Laboratory Testing in Health Care

- Featuring: DR. AMANDA NATALIZIO, PhD, HCLD (ABB) | Founder & CEO, Helix Molecular Solutions
- **Link:** youtu.be/IDfSnCMao5E?si=XRCZgVgGrQK6sGCZ



Implementation Guides & Educational Resources

Policy Understanding & Advocacy

CMDA Blog - 2026 Medicare Proposed Physician Fee Schedule

- Emphasizes need to curb waste in wound care
- Provides advocacy perspectives for public commenting
- **Link:** cmda.us/CMDA-Blog/13538994

Relias Blog - Navigating CMS Skin Substitute Updates

- Practical guide to understanding CTP reimbursement limits
- Compliance guidance for wound care providers
- **Link:** relias.com/blog/navigating-new-cms-skin-substitute-updates

Hospital & Practice Management

American Hospital Association Summary

- Overview focusing on physician payments
- Guidance on providing feedback to CMS
- **Link:** aha.org/news/headline/2025-07-14-cms-issues-cy-2026-physician-fee-schedule-proposed-rule



Tebra Intake - Revenue Impact Analysis

- Explains proposed changes and revenue impacts
- Tips for practice preparation and commenting
- **Link:** tebra.com/theintake/getting-paid/medicare-physician-fee-schedule-proposed-rule



Action Items for Wound Care Providers

Immediate Actions (Before September 12, 2025)

1. Submit Public Comments

- Use the Regulations.gov portal (Docket ID: CMS-2025-0304)
- **Access our Public Comment Toolkit** with ready-to-use templates: **[TOOLKIT LINK PLACEHOLDER]**
- Share your clinical experience and patient impact data

2. Register for Educational Events

- AFPC webinar on September 17, 2025

3. Review Current Practices

- Audit current skin substitute usage
- Assess potential impact on patient care

Preparation for 2026 Implementation

1. Policy Compliance

- Study new LCD requirements
- Train staff on new procedures

2. Financial Planning

- Model revenue impact scenarios
- Explore alternative treatment protocols

3. Network Engagement

- Connect with peer organizations
- Join advocacy efforts



Bookmark This Guide

Save this PDF for quick reference to:

- Official CMS resources and deadlines
- Expert analysis and legal insights
- Educational opportunities and webinars
- Implementation guides and best practices
- Action items and preparation steps

Last Updated: September 2025

For the most current information, always refer to official CMS publications and verify dates/links before use.