

that is less than or equal to the national ground base rate, then it is not used, and the national FS amount applies. If the regional fee schedule methodology for a given census division results in an amount that is greater than the national ground base rate, then the FS portion of the base rate for that census division is equal to a blend of the national rate and the regional rate in accordance with the following schedule:

Time period	Regional percent	National percent
7/1/04–12/31/04	80	20
CY 2005	60	40
CY 2006	40	60
CY 2007–CY 2009	20	80
CY 2010 and thereafter	0	100

[69 FR 40292, July 1, 2004]

§ 414.620 Publication of the ambulance fee schedule.

Changes in payment rates resulting from incorporation of the annual inflation factor described in § 414.610(f) will be announced by notice in the FEDERAL REGISTER without opportunity for prior comment. CMS will follow applicable rulemaking procedures in publishing revisions to the fee schedule for ambulance services that result from any factors other than the inflation factor.

§ 414.625 Limitation on review.

There will be no administrative or judicial review under section 1869 of the Act or otherwise of the amounts established under the fee schedule for ambulance services, including the following:

- (a) Establishing mechanisms to control increases in expenditures for ambulance services.
- (b) Establishing definitions for ambulance services that link payments to the type of services provided.
- (c) Considering appropriate regional and operational differences.
- (d) Considering adjustments to payment rates to account for inflation and other relevant factors.
- (e) Phasing in the application of the payment rates under the fee schedule in an efficient and fair manner.

Subpart I—Payment for Drugs and Biologicals

SOURCE: 69 FR 1116, Jan. 7, 2004, unless otherwise noted.

§ 414.701 Purpose.

This subpart implements section 1842(o) of the Social Security Act by specifying the methodology for determining the payment allowance limit for drugs and biologicals covered under Part B of Title XVIII of the Act (hereafter in this subpart referred to as the “program”) that are not paid on a cost or prospective payment system basis. Examples of drugs that are subject to the rules contained in this subpart are: drugs furnished incident to a physician’s service; durable medical equipment (DME) drugs; separately billable drugs at independent dialysis facilities not under the ESRD composite rate; statutorily covered drugs, for example, influenza, pneumococcal and hepatitis vaccines, antigens, hemophilia blood clotting factor, immunosuppressive drugs and certain oral anti-cancer drugs.

§ 414.704 Definitions.

As used in this subpart, the following definition applies. *Drug* refers to both drugs and biologicals.

§ 414.707 Basis of payment.

(a) *Method of payment.* (1) Payment for a drug in calendar year 2004 is based on the lesser of—

- (i) The actual charge on the claim for program benefits; or
- (ii) 85 percent of the average wholesale price determined as of April 1, 2003, subject to the exceptions as specified in paragraphs (a)(2) through (a)(8) of this section.

(2) The payment limits for the following drugs are calculated using 95 percent of the average wholesale price:

- (i) Blood clotting factors.
- (ii) A drug or biological furnished during 2004 that was not available for Medicare payment as of April 1, 2003.
- (iii) Pneumococcal and influenza vaccines as well as hepatitis B vaccine that is furnished to individuals at high or intermediate risk of contracting

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hepatitis B (as determined by the Secretary).

(iv) A drug or biological furnished during 2004 in connection with the furnishing of renal dialysis services if separately billed by renal dialysis facilities.

(3) The payment limits for infusion drugs furnished through a covered item of durable medical equipment are calculated using 95 percent of the average wholesale price in effect on October 1, 2003.

(4) The payments limits for drugs contained in the following table are calculated based on the percentages of the average wholesale price determined as of April 1, 2003 that are specified in the table.

Drug	Percentage used to calculate 2004 payment limit
EPOETIN ALFA	87
LEUPROLIDE ACETATE	81
GOSERELIN ACETATE	80
RITUXIMAB	81
PACLITAXEL	81
DOCETAXEL	80
CARBOPLATIN	81
IRINOTECAN	80
GEMCITABINE HCL	80
PAMIDRONATE DISODIUM	85
DOLASETRON MESYLATE	80
FILGRASTIM	81
HYLAN G-F 20	82
MYCOPHENOLATE MOFETIL	86
GRANISETRON HCL	80
ONDANSETRON	87
VINORELBINE TARTATE	81
SARGRAMOSTIM	80
TOPOTECAN	84
IPRATROPIUM BROMIDE	80
ALBUTEROL SULFATE	80
IMMUNE GLOBULIN	80
LEUCOVORIN CALCIUM	80
DOXORUBICIN HCL	80
DEXAMETHOSONE SODIUM PHOSPHATE	86
HEPARIN SODIUM LOCK-FLUSH	80
CROMOLYN SODIUM	80
ACETYLCYSTEINE	80

(5) The payment limits for imiglucerase and alglucerase are calculated using 94 percent of the average wholesale price determined as of April 1, 2003.

(6) Exception. The payment limit for a drug otherwise subject to paragraph (a)(1)(ii) or paragraph (a)(4) of this sec-

tion may be calculated using the percentage of the average wholesale price as the Secretary deems appropriate based on data and information submitted by the drug manufacturer.

(i) The manufacturer must submit data after October 15, 2003 and before January 1, 2004.

(ii) The percentage only applies for drugs furnished on or after April 1, 2004.

(7) In the case of blood and blood products (other than blood clotting factors), the payment limits shall be determined in the same manner as such payment limit was determined on October 1, 2003.

(b) *Mandatory assignment.* Effective with services furnished on or after February 1, 2001, payment for any drug covered under Part B of Medicare may be made on an assignment-related basis only. All billers must accept the program allowed charge as payment in full and may not bill nor collect from the beneficiary any amount other than the unmet Part B deductible and Part B coinsurance amounts, if applicable. Violations of this requirement may subject the supplier to sanctions, as provided by the statute (*See* § 402 of this chapter).

Subpart J—Submission of Manufacturer’s Average Sales Price Data

SOURCE: 69 FR 17938, Apr. 6, 2004, unless otherwise noted.

§ 414.800 Purpose.

This subpart implements section 1847A of the Act by specifying the requirements for submission of a manufacturer’s average sales price data for certain drugs and biologicals covered under Part B of Title XVIII of the Act that are paid under sections 1842(o)(1)(D), 1847A, and 1881(b)(13)(A)(ii) of the Act.

§ 414.802 Definitions.

As used in this subpart, unless the context indicates otherwise—

Drug means both drugs and biologicals.

Manufacturer means any entity that is engaged in the following (This term