

TABLE 90: CY 2021 PFS Estimated Impact on Total Allowed Charges by Specialty

(A) Specialty	(B) Allowed Charges (mil)	(C) Impact of Work RVU Changes	(D) Impact of PE RVU Changes	(E) Impact of MP RVU Changes	(F) Combined Impact
Allergy/Immunology	\$246	5%	4%	0%	9%
Anesthesiology	\$2,011	-7%	-1%	0%	-8%
Audiologist	\$74	-4%	-2%	0%	-7%
Cardiac Surgery	\$264	-6%	-2%	-1%	-9%
Cardiology	\$6,849	1%	0%	0%	1%
Chiropractor	\$759	-7%	-3%	0%	-10%
Clinical Psychologist	\$824	-1%	1%	0%	0%
Clinical Social Worker	\$851	-1%	1%	0%	0%
Colon And Rectal Surgery	\$168	-4%	-1%	0%	-5%
Critical Care	\$376	-6%	-2%	0%	-8%
Dermatology	\$3,758	-1%	-1%	0%	-2%
Diagnostic Testing Facility	\$813	-1%	-5%	0%	-6%
Emergency Medicine	\$3,065	-5%	-1%	0%	-6%
Endocrinology	\$506	11%	6%	1%	17%
Family Practice	\$5,982	9%	4%	1%	13%
Gastroenterology	\$1,749	-3%	-1%	0%	-5%
General Practice	\$405	5%	2%	0%	8%
General Surgery	\$2,041	-4%	-2%	0%	-7%
Geriatrics	\$190	2%	2%	0%	4%
Hand Surgery	\$245	-2%	-1%	0%	-3%
Hematology/Oncology	\$1,702	9%	5%	1%	14%
Independent Laboratory	\$639	-3%	-2%	0%	-5%
Infectious Disease	\$653	-4%	-1%	0%	-4%
Internal Medicine	\$10,654	2%	2%	0%	4%
Interventional Pain Mgmt	\$932	4%	3%	0%	7%
Interventional Radiology	\$497	-3%	-5%	0%	-9%
Multispecialty Clinic/Other Phys	\$152	-3%	-1%	0%	-4%
Nephrology	\$2,213	4%	2%	0%	6%
Neurology	\$1,513	3%	2%	0%	6%
Neurosurgery	\$806	-4%	-2%	-1%	-7%
Nuclear Medicine	\$56	-5%	-3%	0%	-8%
Nurse Anes / Anes Asst	\$1,316	-9%	-1%	0%	-11%
Nurse Practitioner	\$5,069	5%	3%	0%	8%
Obstetrics/Gynecology	\$633	4%	3%	0%	8%
Ophthalmology	\$5,328	-4%	-2%	0%	-6%
Optometry	\$1,349	-2%	-2%	0%	-5%
Oral/Maxillofacial Surgery	\$78	-2%	-3%	0%	-5%
Orthopedic Surgery	\$3,796	-3%	-1%	0%	-5%
Other	\$47	-3%	-2%	0%	-5%
Otolaryngology	\$1,264	4%	3%	0%	7%
Pathology	\$1,257	-6%	-4%	0%	-9%
Pediatrics	\$66	4%	2%	0%	6%
Physical Medicine	\$1,157	-3%	0%	0%	-3%
Physical/Occupational Therapy	\$4,946	-5%	-5%	0%	-9%
Physician Assistant	\$2,888	5%	3%	0%	8%
Plastic Surgery	\$378	-4%	-3%	0%	-7%
Podiatry	\$2,111	-1%	0%	0%	-1%

(A) Specialty	(B) Allowed Charges (mil)	(C) Impact of Work RVU Changes	(D) Impact of PE RVU Changes	(E) Impact of MP RVU Changes	(F) Combined Impact
Portable X-Ray Supplier	\$94	-2%	-4%	0%	-6%
Psychiatry	\$1,099	4%	3%	0%	8%
Pulmonary Disease	\$1,647	0%	0%	0%	1%
Radiation Oncology And Radiation Therapy Centers	\$1,803	-3%	-3%	0%	-6%
Radiology	\$5,253	-6%	-5%	0%	-11%
Rheumatology	\$546	10%	6%	1%	16%
Thoracic Surgery	\$350	-5%	-2%	-1%	-8%
Urology	\$1,803	4%	4%	0%	8%
Vascular Surgery	\$1,287	-2%	-5%	0%	-7%
TOTAL	\$96,557	0%	0%	0%	0%

* Column F may not equal the sum of columns C, D, and E due to rounding.

2. CY 2021 PFS Impact Discussion

a. Changes in RVUs

The most widespread specialty impacts of the RVU changes are generally related to the changes to RVUs for specific services resulting from the misvalued code initiative, including RVUs for new and revised codes. The estimated impacts for some specialties, including endocrinology, rheumatology, family practice, and hematology/oncology reflect increases relative to other physician specialties. These increases can largely be attributed to previously finalized policies for increases in valuation for office/outpatient E/M visits which constitute nearly 20 percent of total spending under the PFS. These increases are also due to proposed increases in value for particular services following the recommendations from the American Medical Association (AMA)'s Relative Value Scale Update Committee (RUC) and CMS review, increased payments as a result of finalized updates to supply and equipment pricing, and the continuing implementation of the adjustment to indirect PE allocation for some office-based services. For nephrologists, our proposal to increase the valuations of the ESRD monthly capitation payments that have office/outpatient E/M visits explicitly included in their valuations result in estimated impacts of +5 percent. For clinical social workers and clinical psychologists,