

One Page Summary of Inspector General Grimm's Testimony

The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), Office of Inspector General's (OIG's) mission is to prevent, detect, and combat fraud, waste, and abuse. Our work helps ensure that HHS programs better serve the American people and that taxpayer dollars are not misspent.

I have been invited to testify about improper payments in Medicare and Medicaid, the nation's two largest health care programs. My testimony will discuss improper payments in managed care, a growing sector with significant emerging risks and opportunities for improvement. I have also been invited to testify about how increased investment in health care enforcement and oversight would address growing threats to Medicare and Medicaid, the people they serve, and taxpayer funds.

Regarding Medicare Advantage: Two specific risk areas identified in our work are risk adjustment and durable medical equipment (DME) fraud. My testimony will touch on HHS-OIG recommendations to improve risk adjustment in Medicare Advantage, HHS-OIG's significant efforts to combat fraud, and how improper payments could be reduced.

Regarding Medicaid Managed Care: Most Medicaid enrollees receive services through managed care. My testimony will address HHS-OIG's work in three risk areas: (1) Medicaid eligibility determinations, (2) Medicaid payments to managed care organizations for people enrolled in more than one State Medicaid program, and (3) Medicaid payments to managed care organizations for people who are deceased. Our work has shown that States continue to struggle to ensure that payments are made in the right amount and on behalf of the correct beneficiary. My testimony will offer recommended solutions.

Regarding Increased Investment: OIG is experiencing a shortfall in resources to detect improper payments and combat fraud. We appreciate the Subcommittee's support of our work and a legislative proposal that would increase investment in health care enforcement and oversight. This investment would pay dividends for American taxpayers and protect programs and patients.