

Report on Medicare Compliance Volume 31, Number 18. May 16, 2022 News Briefs: May 16, 2022

By Nina Youngstrom

◆ In a new report, the HHS Office of Inspector General (OIG) said 25% of Medicare beneficiaries experienced patient harm (adverse events and temporary harm events) during hospital stays in October 2018, slightly down from 27% in October 2008.^[1] The most common patient harm events related to medication (e.g., delirium), followed by events related to patient care (e.g., pressure ulcers), procedures and surgeries (e.g., intraoperative hypotension) and infections. “Given the scale and persistence of patient harm in hospitals in the decade since our last report, HHS leadership and agencies must work with urgency to reduce patient harm in hospitals,” OIG said. The report includes recommendations for CMS and the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality to reduce patient harm.

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