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♦ CMS said May 4 that it will do a small-sample audit of every skilled nursing facility (SNF) in the country, according to Medicare Transmittal 12,015. (CMS is implementing a 5-claim probe and educate medical review strategy that allows for maximum outreach to all SNFs and offers provider-specific education, as necessary, in an attempt to prevent future improper payments, the transmittal states. CMS hopes to increase understanding of the patient-driven payment model, its relatively new version of the SNF prospective payment system, in the wake of an increase in the error rate.

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