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Developing Outpatient Therapy Payment Alternatives (DOTPA): 2007 Utilization Report

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Major Findings:

1. Physician Employed Physical Therapy (POPTs) average reimbursement is \$521.62 per patient while Physical Therapists in Private Practice is \$870.69.
2. Patients can expect to spend on average \$349.07 more for the same therapy treatment when receiving care in a Private Physical Therapy Practice versus receiving therapy in their physician's office.
3. Total Medicare expenditures on Physical Therapy increased by 6.6% to \$4.3 billion from 2006 to 2007. Therapy services continue to expand at a significant rate.
4. During this time the number of physician practices offering physical therapy services decreased 21.2%, while physical therapists in private practice increased by 31.7%. "The distribution of the settings providing outpatient therapy has shifted in the last few years away from facilities (hospitals, etc.) and physician offices and toward therapists in private practice (PTPP and OTPP)."
5. Private Practice Physical Therapists accounted for 28.4% of the total Medicare expenditures for 2007, while Physician Employed Physical Therapists accounted for just 5.8%.