Effective 10/1/19, The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid (CMS) is switching to a new grouper methodology called the “Patient Directed Payment Model” (PDPM) for Medicare payments to Nursing Facilities. Currently, the Ohio Department of Medicaid (ODM) plans to continue its current payment methodology using the RUG IV grouper. ODM will continue to monitor the new payment methodology with its internal and external stakeholders to keep apprised of any new updates. Below are some frequently asked questions and corresponding answers.

1. What happens on 10/1/19?

Effective 10/1/19, Medicaid payments that Nursing Facility providers receive will be the same as they have been in the past. Currently, ODM does not expect to make any changes regarding PDPM.

2. What happens on 10/1/20?

10/1/20 was the original date that CMS gave states as a deadline to conform to the new PDPM. However, we have recently received communications from CMS that indicates that they will continue the support of RUG IV for an indefinite period beyond 10/1/20.

3. What is ODM’s Plan for the future? Will RUG IV be replaced?

It is likely that at some point in the future, ODM will decide on a replacement for RUG IV. However, at present, there are no plans change the grouper methodology.