

104TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1068

To direct the Secretary of Health and Human Services to conduct a demonstration project under which payment shall be made under the medicare program for renal disease management services furnished to individuals at risk for end stage renal disease to accurately assess whether those management services can prevent the progression of renal disease to renal failure and thereby delay the onset of dialysis and cause savings for the medicare program.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 27, 1995

Mr. STARK introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Commerce and, in addition, to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To direct the Secretary of Health and Human Services to conduct a demonstration project under which payment shall be made under the medicare program for renal disease management services furnished to individuals at risk for end stage renal disease to accurately assess whether those management services can prevent the progression of renal disease to renal failure and thereby delay the onset of dialysis and cause savings for the medicare program.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. ESTABLISHMENT OF DEMONSTRATION**
4 **PROJECT.**

5 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than six months after
6 the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of
7 Health and Human Services (hereafter referred to as the
8 “Secretary”) shall conduct a demonstration project under
9 which the Secretary shall make payment under the medi-
10 care program for renal disease management services fur-
11 nished to eligible individuals participating in the project
12 to accurately assess whether those management services
13 can prevent the progression of renal disease to renal fail-
14 ure and thereby delay the onset of dialysis and cause sav-
15 ings for the medicare program.

16 (b) SELECTION OF SITES.—The Secretary shall con-
17 duct the demonstration project under this Act at two sites
18 selected by the Secretary in accordance with such criteria
19 as the Secretary may establish.

20 **SEC. 2. DESCRIPTION OF ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUALS AND**
21 **COVERED SERVICES.**

22 (a) ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUALS.—An individual is an eli-
23 gible individual for purposes of participation in the dem-
24 onstration project if—

1 (1) the individual’s attending physician certifies
2 that the individual is at risk for, but does not suffer
3 from, end stage renal disease (in accordance with
4 criteria established by the Secretary);

5 (2) the individual is not entitled to benefits
6 under Part A or enrolled under part B of the medi-
7 care program; and

8 (3) the individual meets such other require-
9 ments as the Secretary may impose.

10 (b) RENAL DISEASE MANAGEMENT SERVICES DE-
11 SCRIBED.—For purposes of this Act, “renal disease man-
12 agement services” are services designed to prevent the
13 onset of end stage renal disease, including—

14 (1) dietary counseling and improvement in nu-
15 tritional status;

16 (2) the management of diabetes, hypertension,
17 and other conditions associated with the onset of end
18 stage renal disease;

19 (3) reduction of cardiovascular risk factors;

20 (4) correction of metabolic, endocrinologic, and
21 hematologic abnormalities;

22 (5) improvements in patient education of the
23 causes and course of the disease;

24 (6) the evaluation and control of environmental
25 nephrotoxins; and

1 (7) such other services as the Secretary consid-
2 ers appropriate.

3 **SEC. 3. DETERMINATION OF AMOUNT OF PAYMENT FOR**
4 **COVERED SERVICES.**

5 (a) APPLICATION OF MEDICARE PAYMENT METH-
6 ODOLOGIES.—To the extent that a renal disease manage-
7 ment service for which payment may be made under the
8 demonstration project is a service for which payment may
9 be made under title XVIII of the Social Security Act, the
10 amount of payment made for the service under the dem-
11 onstration project shall be determined in accordance with
12 the methodology used to determine the amount of payment
13 for the service under such title.

14 (b) PAYMENT FOR SERVICES NOT COVERED UNDER
15 MEDICARE.—To the extent that a renal disease manage-
16 ment service for which payment may be made under the
17 demonstration project is not a service for which payment
18 may be made under title XVIII of the Social Security Act,
19 the amount of payment made for the service under the
20 demonstration project shall be determined in accordance
21 with such methodology as the Secretary may establish.

22 **SEC. 4. INDEPENDENT MONITORING OF PROJECT.**

23 The Secretary shall enter into a contract with an en-
24 tity not otherwise participating in or affiliated with the

1 demonstration project to monitor the project and to assess
2 and make public the extent to which—

3 (1) the implementation of renal disease man-
4 agement services produces increased job retention,
5 preservation of meaningful and taxable income, or
6 improvement in the quality of life as measured by
7 health status questionnaires or other tools as estab-
8 lished by the Secretary;

9 (2) renal disease management services affect
10 the patient's functional outcome and/or natural his-
11 tory of their kidney disease as compared to a well-
12 matched control group and measured by variables as
13 the Secretary may establish; and

14 (3) the implementation of renal disease man-
15 agement services in eligible individuals as a means
16 to aggressively manage the factors contributing to
17 kidney disease has delayed the progression of renal
18 disease and, therefore, the onset of dialysis.

19 **SEC. 5. TERMINATION OF PROJECT.**

20 The demonstration project conducted under this Act
21 shall terminate upon the expiration of the three-year pe-
22 riod which begins on the first date on which the project
23 is in effect.

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