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## Two Separate Initiatives Resulting in Profound Cuts to DXA and VFA Are Set to Take Effect on January 1, 2007

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (**CMS**) has finalized the reimbursement rates for DXA and VFA as part of the Medicare Physician Fee Schedule (**MPFS**).

- Reimbursement for **DXA** will drop on January 1, 2007 from the current value of \$139.46 to \$106.14 and will plummet to \$35.48 when the fee schedule is fully implemented in 2010. This amounts to a **75% cut** in DXA reimbursement **over the next four years**.
- Reimbursement for **VFA** will drop on January 1, 2007 from \$39.41 to \$33.10. When fully implemented in 2010, reimbursement for VFA will be **cut by 51%** to \$19.13.

Additionally, Section 5102 of the Deficit Reduction Act (**DRA**) passed by Congress will impose further cuts on a variety of imaging services including DXA (but not VFA) and will also take effect on January 1, 2007.

- **This will drop DXA reimbursement from \$106.14 to \$82.33.**

There are several bills pending in Congress that would delay or eliminate the Deficit Reduction Act (**DRA**) cuts. The ISCD will continue to work on DRA issues with the current Congress and when the new Congress convenes in January.

The ISCD is also working with other interested organizations to try to remedy the larger cuts imposed by CMS in the new **MPFS**.