

42 C.F.R. § 414.26

Determining the GAF.

CMS establishes a GAF for each service in each fee schedule area.

(a) *Geographic indices.* CMS uses the following indices to establish the GAF:

- (1) An index that reflects one-fourth of the difference between the relative value of physicians' work effort in each of the different fee schedule areas as determined under § 414.22(a) and the national average of that work effort.
- (2) An index that reflects the relative costs of the mix of goods and services comprising practice expenses (other than malpractice expenses) in each of the different fee schedule areas as determined under § 414.22(b) compared to the national average of those costs.
- (3) An index that reflects the relative costs of malpractice expenses in each of the different fee schedule areas as determined under § 414.22(c) compared to the national average of those costs.

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