

## Compliance Today – December 2019 Skilled nursing facility ambulance transport monitoring

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by John Falcetano

John Falcetano ([john.falcetano@brooksrehab.org](mailto:john.falcetano@brooksrehab.org)) is Director Corporate Compliance at Brooks Health System in Jacksonville, FL.

*A critical element of any effective compliance program is monitoring. As a service to our members, each month this column focuses on potential monitors for specific business lines.*

One area of concern that requires monitoring is ambulance transports for Medicare beneficiaries who are residents in a skilled nursing facility (SNF). Ambulance transports of SNF residents are included in Medicare Part A payments to SNFs as part of consolidated billing requirements, unless it meets an exception. SNFs services are paid through the Medicare prospective payment system (PPS). Under the PPS, Medicare Part A pays SNFs through per diem, prospective, case-mix-adjusted payment rates that cover virtually all of the costs of furnishing services to Medicare beneficiaries.

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