

### Medicare Impact Survey Data

The American College of Radiology (ACR) and the Radiology Business Management Association (RBMA) conducted a survey of RBMA members with freestanding imaging centers asking how they may respond to the proposed Medicare payment cuts to imaging services if they go into effect. The survey asked respondents how they may react to: 1) a 25 percent reduction in Medicare payments; and 2) a 50 percent reduction in global payments. RBMA used the following changes to arrive at both payment reduction scenarios: (1) a higher estimate of the utilization rate for equipment costing \$1 million or more, (2) substantially lower malpractice values for the technical component, (3) a lower practice expense per hour estimate, and (4) a scheduled cut to Medicare's conversion factor in 2010. A table with the survey findings is below.

Response	25 Percent Reduction in Medicare Global Services Payments		50 Percent Reduction in Medicare Global Services Payments	
	N	%	N	%
Reduce the number of staff	86	73.50%	87	75.70%
Reduce overhead	86	73.50%	87	75.70%
Drop out of Medicare	5	4.30%	29	25.20%
Limit access to Medicare beneficiaries	25	21.40%	41	35.70%
Pay radiologists less	73	62.40%	78	67.80%
Forgo imaging technology upgrades	100	85.50%	90	78.30%
Forgo other technology upgrades	87	74.40%	89	77.40%
Reduce office hours	37	31.60%	49	42.60%
Consolidate sites of service	35	29.90%	46	40.00%
Restructure joint ventures	17	14.50%	24	20.90%
Close the imaging center	25	21.40%	46	40.00%
Other (please specify):	27	23.10%	22	19.10%
Number of respondents	117		115	