



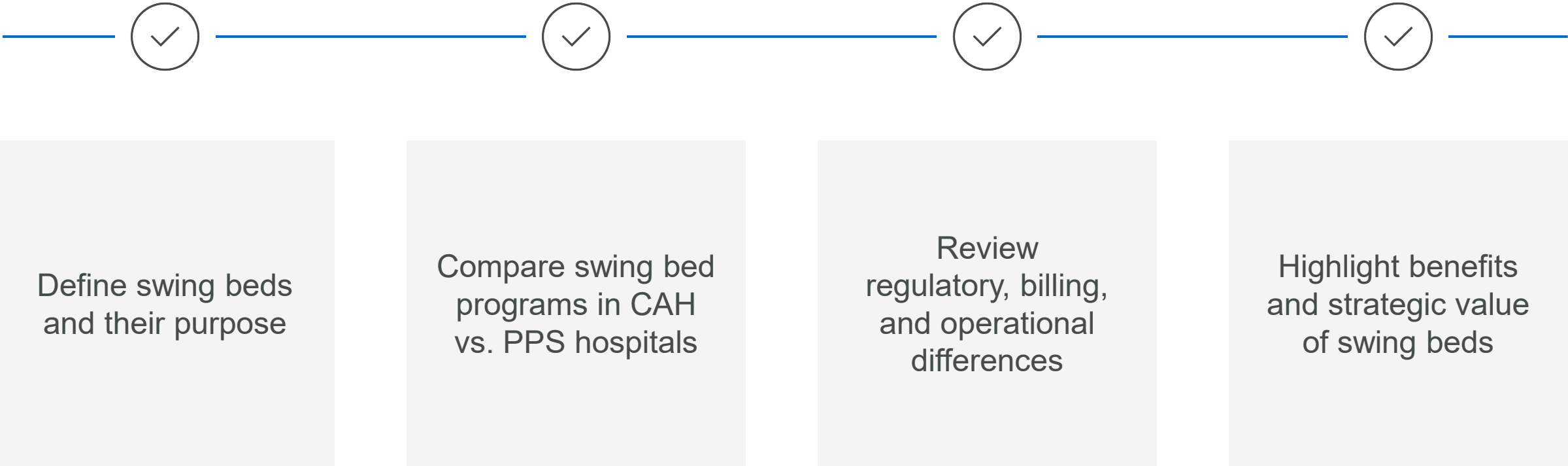
Swing Bed Programs **Understanding the Basics**

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Objectives



Agenda

1. What Is a Swing Bed?
2. Eligibility & Regulations
3. Documentation & Clinical Requirements
4. 2025 CMS Updates
5. Best Practices
6. Case Study



Swing Bed Basics

What Is a Swing Bed?



- A hospital bed that can be used for either acute care or skilled nursing care
- Allows transitional SNF-level care after inpatient stay without patient transfer

Why Do Swing Beds Matter?



- Improves care continuity
- Keeps rural patients local
- Reduces readmissions & LOS
- Generates additional Medicare revenue

Acute Care



SNF-Level Care

Facility Eligibility Criteria



Rural hospitals
with <100 beds



Must have a three-day
qualifying inpatient stay



CMS-approved swing
bed designation

CAH Swing Bed Overview



No MDS
required



Paid under
cost-based
method



Must meet SNF
level of care
requirements



Acute to SNF
transition

PPS Swing Bed Overview



Subject to SNF
PPS & MDS



Requires three-day
inpatient qualifying stay



Full CMS SNF Conditions
of Participation

Swing Bed Admission Requirements



Three-day qualifying
stay required



Skilled need must
be documented



Must admit within
30 days of hospital
discharge

Documentation Requirements



Status change
order by
physician



Discharge
summary from
acute stay



Admission
History &
Physical for
Swing Bed
Admission



Skilled nursing
progress notes



Care
plans

Billing & Reimbursement Differences

CAH

- Cost-based reimbursement (Method I or II)
- No MDS required

PPS

- SNF PPS (PDPM) payment
- MDS 3.0 submission required



Method I vs. Method II for CAHs



Method I

CAH bills for facility only

VS



Method II

CAH bills for both
facility & provider

CMS changes effective July 1, 2025

Operations & Workflow



Identify qualifying
patients



Case management
coordinates transition



Differences for the
CAH & PPS facility

Compliance Highlights



Skilled need
documentation



Physician
certification
& recertification



Interdisciplinary
care planning



Staff SNF-level
competencies

Quality & Outcomes Tracking



Track
LOS



Readmission
rates



ADL
improvements



Patient
satisfaction
scores

2025 CMS Updates



New MLN guidance
(May 2025)



TEAM
proposal



Focus on Occurrence
Code 70 &
change-of-status

Audit & Compliance Risks



Missed
three-day rule



Incorrect
POS



Inadequate
progress notes

Best Practices



Create internal
checklists



Conduct self-audits
monthly



Train clinical staff on
swing bed transitions

Strategic Value of Swing Beds



Fills local post-acute
care gaps



Keeps revenue
in-hospital



Supports population
health goals



Case Review

Unlocking Post-Acute Potential:

A PPS Hospital's Swing Bed
Transformation Journey



Key Takeaways



Swing beds add clinical & financial value

- **Avoiding discharge delays**



PPS & CAH beds have different Conditions of Participation & billing methodology



Both offer patient-centered discharge options

Swing Bed Webinar Series

Other sessions in this series:



**Swing Bed Programs:
Navigating the Pre-
Admission Process**

August 19, 2025
11 a.m.–12 p.m. ET



**Swing Bed Programs:
Documentation to
Support Sustainable
Reimbursement**

September 16, 2025
11 a.m.–12 p.m. ET

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