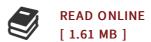


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RareBooksClub. Paperback. Book Condition: New. This item is printed on demand. Paperback. 42 pages. Original publisher: Washington, D. C. : Congress of the United States, Congressional Budget Office, 2007 OCLC Number: (OCoLC)141201672 Subject: Medical care, Cost of -- United States -- Statistics. Excerpt: . . . Box 1. Continued as the Volume Performance Standard (VPS), established a growth rate that was determined, in part, by the historical growth in the volume and intensity of physicians services. The method for applying the VPS was fairly straightforward - any excess spending relative to the target triggered a reduction in the update to the fee schedule two years later. But, because the VPS system depended heavily on the historical trend in the volume and intensity of physicians services provided to Medicare beneficiaries, it led to updates to the fee schedule that were unstable. For instance, the decline in that trend in the mid-1990s led to large increases in Medicares payment rates for physicians services. Attempts to offset the budgetary effects of those increases by making successively larger cuts in pay-ment rates further destabilized the update mechanism. Indeed, between 1992 and 1998 (the years that the VPS was in effect),...



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