

# **Committee on Ways and Means**

## ***H.R. 6408, Tax Relief and Health Care Act of 2006***

### **Hospital Outpatient and ASC Quality Reporting**

- Beginning in 2009, the Act provides for voluntary reporting of quality of care measures furnished by ambulatory surgical centers (ASC) and hospitals in outpatient settings. If these entities choose to report, they will receive a full update, based on their costs. If they choose not to report, their update will be reduced by 2 percentage points.
- The Secretary is to develop consensus-based quality of care measures applicable to outpatient departments and ASCs.
- Further, the Secretary has the discretion to adopt currently approved, consensus-based hospital inpatient quality measures that may be applicable to outpatient departments and ASCs, such as those measures involving the provision of antibiotics before and after surgery.
- About 96 percent of inpatient acute care hospitals have been voluntarily and successfully reporting quality measures to CMS, the results of which are publicly reported on the “Hospital Compare” website.