The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) issued a final rule on July 31, 2009, that revises policies and payment rates for general acute care hospitals that are paid for inpatient services under the InPatient Payment System (IPPS).

The IPPS FY 2010 Final Rule includes the chart-abstracted measure, SCIP Infection 10 – Surgery Patients with Perioperative Temperature Management.

To Whom does the measure apply?

- SCIP-Inf-10 applies to all patients regardless of age undergoing surgical procedures under general or neuraxial anesthesia one hour or longer.
- For these patients, facilities must either use an active warming modality, such as KOALA Warming System, or achieve the target temperature of 36°C or greater within 30 minutes immediately before or 15 minutes after anesthesia end time.

How will SCIP affect my facility and how I practice anesthesia?

- SCIP-Inf-10 advocates warming for a much broader range of procedures than previous measures. Therefore, your facility may be actively warming more patients than before.
- SCIP has defined temperature as a critical variable in overall patient care. A greater emphasis will be placed on temperature monitoring in your facility.

KOALA makes patient warming simple.

SCIP approved KOALA ΔT Warming System is the first patented conductive underbody patient warming to prevent perioperative hypothermia. KOALA ΔT is reusable and energy efficient, making it the simplest solution to maintain normothermia and improve overall patient health and well-being.

KOALA ΔT is Cost Efficient.

KOALA ΔT Warming System provides a guaranteed annual savings of $7,500 per OR when compared with disposable systems. Low power consumption (75W compared with 1550W required for forced air systems) provides additional energy cost savings.

KOALA ΔT’s low running costs make it economically feasible to warm every surgical patient, even during short procedures. Durable, polyurethane covering allows for easy wipe-down disinfection between patients, eliminating setup time. KOALA ΔT also eliminates costly storage and waste disposal.