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State/Territory Name: Georgia

State Plan Amendment (SPA) #: 21-0006

This file contains the following documents in the order listed:

- 1) Approval Letter
- 2) CMS 179 Form/Summary Form (with 179-like data)
- 3) Approved SPA Pages

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
Center for Medicaid & CHIP Services
233 North Michigan Ave., Suite 600
Chicago, Illinois 60601



Financial Management Group

September 7, 2021

Lynette Rhodes, Esq.
Executive Director, Medical Assistance Plans
Department of Community Health
2 Peachtree Street, NW, Suite 36-450
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

RE: TN 21-0006

Dear Ms. Rhodes:

We have reviewed the proposed Georgia State Plan Amendment (SPA), which was submitted to the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) on July 1, 2021. This plan amendment increases 18 select primary care and OB/GYN codes to the 2020 Medicare levels (rates) for those physicians eligible for enhanced rates.

Based upon the information provided by the State, we have approved the amendment with an effective date of July 1, 2021. We are enclosing the approved CMS-179 and a copy of the new state plan pages.

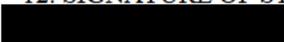
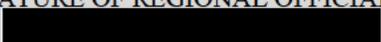
If you have any additional questions or need further assistance, please contact Moe Wolf at 410-786-9291 or Moshe.Wolf@CMS.HHS.gov.

Sincerely,

A solid black rectangular box redacting the signature of Todd McMillion.

Todd McMillion
Director
Division of Reimbursement Review

Enclosures

TRANSMITTAL AND NOTICE OF APPROVAL OF STATE PLAN MATERIAL		1. TRANSMITTAL NUMBER: 21-0006	2. STATE GEORGIA
		3. PROGRAM IDENTIFICATION: TITLE XIX OF THE SOCIAL SECURITY ACT (MEDICAID)	
TO: REGIONAL ADMINISTRATOR CENTERS FOR MEDICARE AND MEDICAID SERVICES DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES		4. PROPOSED EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2021	
5. TYPE OF PLAN MATERIAL (<i>Check One</i>):			
NEW STATE PLAN <input type="checkbox"/>		AMENDMENT TO BE CONSIDERED AS NEW PLAN <input type="checkbox"/>	
		XX AMENDMENT	
COMPLETE BLOCKS 6 THRU 10 IF THIS IS AN AMENDMENT (<i>Separate Transmittal for each amendment</i>)			
6. FEDERAL STATUTE/REGULATION CITATION: 42 CFR 447.201(b)		7. FEDERAL BUDGET IMPACT: FFY21: \$14,345,336 <u>14,115,822</u> FFY22 <u>\$1,434,336</u>	
8. PAGE NUMBER OF THE PLAN SECTION OR ATTACHMENT: Attachment 4.19-B, pages 4.007, 4.008, and 4.008(i)		9. PAGE NUMBER OF THE SUPERSEDED PLAN SECTION OR ATTACHMENT (<i>If Applicable</i>): Attachment 4.19-B, pages 4.007, 4.008, and 4.008(i)	
10. SUBJECT OF AMENDMENT: Increase the following Primary Care and OBGYN codes to 2020 Medicare Levels: 90472, 99203, 99204, 99212, 99213, 99214, 99215, 99223, 99232, 99233, 99238, 99284, 99285, 99391, 99392, 99393, 99394, and 99480			
11. GOVERNOR'S REVIEW (<i>Check One</i>):			
<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNOR'S OFFICE REPORTED NO COMMENT		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER, AS SPECIFIED:	
<input type="checkbox"/> COMMENTS OF GOVERNOR'S OFFICE ENCLOSED		Single State Agency Comments Attached	
<input type="checkbox"/> NO REPLY RECEIVED WITHIN 45 DAYS OF SUBMITTAL			
12. SIGNATURE OF STATE AGENCY OFFICIAL: 		16. RETURN TO:	
13. TYPED NAME: LYNNETTE R. RHODES, ESQ.		Department of Community Health Division of Medicaid 2 Peachtree Street, NW, 36th Floor Atlanta, Georgia 30303-3159	
14. TITLE: EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, MEDICAL ASSISTANCE PLANS			
15. DATE SUBMITTED: 7/1/2021			
FOR REGIONAL OFFICE USE ONLY			
17. DATE RECEIVED: July 1, 2021		18. DATE APPROVED: September 7, 2021	
PLAN APPROVED – ONE COPY ATTACHED			
19. EFFECTIVE DATE OF APPROVED MATERIAL: July 1, 2021		20. SIGNATURE OF REGIONAL OFFICIAL: 	
21. TYPED NAME: Todd McMillion		22. TITLE: Director, Division of Reimbursement Review	
23. REMARKS:			

Increased Primary Care Service Payment 42 CFR 447.00

Physician Services – Primary Care Payment

The state will continue to reimburse for services provided by physicians with a primary specialty designation of family medicine, pediatric medicine or internal medicine as if the requirements of 42 CFR 447.00 remain in effect. The rates will be 100 percent of those in effect for these services and providers during CY 2014. A provider must meet one of the following requirements listed below to qualify for the enhanced payment.

- a. A provider must be Board certified with a specialty or subspecialty designation in family medicine, general internal medicine or pediatrics that is recognized by the American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS), the American Board of Physician Specialties (ABPS), or the American Osteopathic Association (AOA), and must actually practice their specialty.
- b. A non-board certified provider who practices in the field of family medicine, general internal medicine, or pediatrics or a subspecialty under one of the these specialties, is eligible if he/she can attest that 60 percent of their paid Medicaid procedures billed are for certain specified procedure codes for evaluation and management services and certain vaccines for children administration codes.
- c. Physician extenders (physician assistants, nurse practitioners and nurse midwives) are also eligible for increased payment for designated services as long as they practice under the supervision of an eligible physician with professional responsibility for the provision of care.

Physicians and physician extenders who are reimbursed through Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHC), Rural Health Centers (RHC), public health departments, nursing homes or a facility's encounter (visit, or per diem rate) or who are not practicing in one of the designated primary care specialties are not eligible for increased rates. Primary care physicians who receive supplemental reimbursement via the Physician Upper Payment Limit (UPL) Program are excluded from the provider rate increase.

The state will also reimburse at the above mentioned CY 2014 rates for services provided by physicians and physician extenders with an obstetrical and/or gynecological specialty designation.

Method of Payment

The state has adjusted its fee schedule to make payment at the higher rate for each E&M code.

Primary Care Services Affected by this Payment Methodology

This payment applies to Evaluation and Management (E&M) billing codes 99202-99205, 99212-99215, 99217, 99218, 99221, 99222, 99231-99233, 99238, 99239, 99244, 99381, 99460, 99462, 99468, 99469, 99477, and 99391-99395.

Starting July 1, 2017, this payment will also apply to E&M billing codes 99201, 99211, 99219, 99220, 99223 – 99226, 99234 – 99236, 99241, 99242, 99243, 99245, 99251 – 99255, 99281 – 99285, 99291, 99292, 99304 – 99310, 99318, 99324 – 99328, 99334 – 99337, 99341 – 99345, 99347 – 99350, 99354 – 99357, 99382, 99383, 99384, 99385, 99406, 99407, 99412, 99461, 99463 – 99465, 99471, 99472, 99475, 99476, 99478, 99479, and 99480.

Effective with dates of service beginning July 1, 2020 and thereafter, the rate for the following codes will increase by one percent (1%): 90460, 90471-90474, 99201-99205, 99211-99215, 99217-99226, 99231-99236, 99238-99245, 99251-99255, 99281-99285, 99291-99292, 99304-99310, 99318, 99324-99328, 99334-99337, 99341-99345, 99347-99350, 99354-99357, 99381-99385, 99391-99395, 99406-99407, 99412, 99460-99465, 99469, 99468-99469, 99471-99472, 99475-99480.

Effective with dates of service beginning July 1, 2021 and thereafter, the rates for the following codes will increase to the Medicare 2020 levels: 90472, 99203, 99204, 99212-99215, 99223, 99232, 99233, 99238, 99284, 99285, 99391-99394, 99480.

Physician Services – Vaccine Administration

The state reimburses vaccine administration furnished by physicians meeting the requirements of 42 CFR 447.00 (a) at the regional maximum administration fee set by the Vaccines for Children Program in 2014 for code 90460. Codes 90471 and 90472 are reimbursed at the Medicare fee schedule in effect for the CY 2014 under the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act rate increase for Medicaid primary care and vaccine administration.

Starting July 1, 2017, codes 90473 and 90474 are reimbursed at the Medicare fee schedule in effect for CY 2014.

Starting July 1, 2020 and thereafter, the rate for the following codes will increase by one percent (1%): 90460 and 90471-90474.

Method of Payment – Vaccine Administration

The state has adjusted its fee schedule to make payment at the higher rate for each vaccine administration code.

Primary Care Services Affected by this Payment Methodology

This payment applies to vaccine administration billing codes 90460, 90471 and 90472.

Effective Date of Payment

E&M Services and Vaccine Administration

This reimbursement methodology applies to services delivered on and after July 1, 2016,
unless otherwise noted herein.

All rates are published at:

[https://www.mmis.georgia.gov/portal/Portals/0/StaticContent/Public/ALL/FEE%20SCHEDULES/Schedule%20of%20Maximum%20Allw%20Pymt%20Physician_%20\(006\)%2020210615141107.pdf](https://www.mmis.georgia.gov/portal/Portals/0/StaticContent/Public/ALL/FEE%20SCHEDULES/Schedule%20of%20Maximum%20Allw%20Pymt%20Physician_%20(006)%2020210615141107.pdf)