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## **Table of Contents**

**State/Territory Name:** South Dakota

**State Plan Amendment (SPA) #:** SD-09-012

This file contains the following documents in the order listed:

- 1) Approval Letter
- 2) 179
- 3) Approved SPA Pages

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES  
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services  
7500 Security Boulevard, Mail Stop S2-26-12  
Baltimore, Maryland 21244-1850



**Center for Medicaid and State Operations, CMSO**

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Mr. Larry Iversen, Administrator  
Medical Services  
Department of Social Services  
Kneip Building  
700 Governors Drive  
Pierre, SD 57501-2291

DEC 17 2009

RE: South Dakota 09-012


Dear Mr. Iversen:

We have reviewed the proposed amendment to Attachment 4.19-A of your Medicaid State plan submitted under transmittal number (TN) 09-012. Effective for services on or after October 1, 2009, this amendment updates the reimbursement methodology for inpatient hospitals participating in South Dakota Medicaid. Specifically, this amendment incorporates the annual Medicare DRG Grouper change and revises cost outlier thresholds.

We conducted our review of your submittal according to the statutory requirements at sections 1902(a)(2), 1902(a)(13), 1902(a)(30), 1903(a) and 1923 of the Social Security Act (the Act) and the regulations at 42 CFR 447 Subpart C. We are pleased to inform you that Medicaid State plan amendment TN 09-012 is approved effective October 1, 2009. The HCFA-179 and the amended plan pages are attached.

If you have any questions, please call Christine Storey at (303) 844-7044.

Sincerely,

 Cindy Mann  
Director  
Center for Medicaid and State Operations

cc: Deborah K. Bowman, Secretary  
Department of SD Social Services

**TRANSMITTAL AND NOTICE OF APPROVAL OF  
STATE PLAN MATERIAL**

**FOR: HEALTH CARE FINANCING ADMINISTRATION**

1. TRANSMITTAL NUMBER:

**09-12**

2. STATE

**SOUTH DAKOTA**

3. PROGRAM IDENTIFICATION: TITLE XIX OF THE  
SOCIAL SECURITY ACT (MEDICAID)

TO: REGIONAL ADMINISTRATOR  
HEALTH CARE FINANCING ADMINISTRATION  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

4. PROPOSED EFFECTIVE DATE

**October 1, 2009**

5. TYPE OF PLAN MATERIAL (Check One):

☐ NEW STATE PLAN

☐ AMENDMENT TO BE CONSIDERED AS NEW PLAN

☒ AMENDMENT

COMPLETE BLOCKS 6 THRU 10 IF THIS IS AN AMENDMENT (Separate Transmittal for each amendment)

6. FEDERAL STATUTE/REGULATION CITATION:

**42 CFR 430.10 447.250-447.252 and 447.256-447.272**

7. FEDERAL BUDGET IMPACT:

**a. FFY10--\$0**

**b. FFY11--\$0**

8. PAGE NUMBER OF THE PLAN SECTION OR ATTACHMENT:

**Attachment 4.19-A, Pages 1 and 3**

9. PAGE NUMBER OF THE SUPERSEDED PLAN SECTION  
OR ATTACHMENT (If Applicable):

**Attachment 4.19-A, Pages 1 and 3**

10. SUBJECT OF AMENDMENT:

**This is a State Plan Amendment to update inpatient hospital reimbursement methodology for the annual Medicare rates grouper change.**

11. GOVERNOR'S REVIEW (Check One):

☒ GOVERNOR'S OFFICE REPORTED NO COMMENT

☐ COMMENTS OF GOVERNOR'S OFFICE ENCLOSED

☐ NO REPLY RECEIVED WITHIN 45 DAYS OF SUBMITTAL

☐ OTHER, AS SPECIFIED:

12. SIGNATURE OF STATE AGENCY OFFICIAL:

13. TYPED NAME:

**Deborah K. Bowman**

14. TITLE:

**Department Secretary**

15. DATE SUBMITTED:

16. RETURN TO:

**Department of Social Services  
Division of Medical Services  
700 Governors Drive  
Pierre SD 57501-2291**

**FOR REGIONAL OFFICE USE ONLY**

17. DATE RECEIVED:

18. DATE APPROVED:

**12-17-09**

**PLAN APPROVED - ONE COPY ATTACHED**

19. EFFECTIVE DATE OF APPROVED MATERIAL:

**OCT 1 - 2009**

20. SIGNATURE OF REGIONAL OFFICIAL:

21. TYPED NAME:

**William Lasowski**

22. TITLE:

**Deputy Director, CMSO**

23. REMARKS:

## **INPATIENT HOSPITAL PAYMENT METHODOLOGY**

### **INTRODUCTION**

The South Dakota Medicaid Program has been reimbursing hospitals for inpatient services, with a few exceptions, under a prospective Diagnosis Related Group (DRG) methodology since January 1, 1985.

### **GENERAL**

South Dakota has adopted the federal definitions of DRGs, the DRG classifications, weights, geometric mean length of stay, and outlier cutoffs as used for the Medicare prospective payment system. The grouper program is updated annually as of October 1 of each year. Beginning with the Medicare grouper version 15 (effective October 1, 1997), South Dakota Medicaid Program specific weight and geometric mean length of stay factors will be established using the latest three years of non-outlier claim data. This three year claim database will be updated annually in order to establish new weight and geometric length of stay factors with each new grouper.

Hospital specific costs per Medicaid discharge amounts were developed for all in-state hospitals using Medicare cost reports and non-outlier claim data for these hospitals' fiscal year ending after June 30, 1996 and before July 1, 1997. An inflation factor, specific to the hospitals' fiscal year end, was applied to the cost per discharge amounts of all hospitals with more than thirty (30) Medicaid discharges during the base year to establish target amounts for the period of October 1, 2009 through September 30, 2010.

A cap on the target amounts has been established. Under this cap no hospital will be allowed a target amount that exceeds 110% of the statewide weighted average of all target amounts.

Out-of-state hospitals will be reimbursed on the same basis as the hospital is paid by the Medicaid agency in the state in which the hospital is located. If the hospital's home state refuses to provide the amount they would pay for a given claim, payment will be at 55% of billed charges. Payment will be for individual discharge or transfer claims only; there will be no annual cost settlement with out of state hospitals.

### **SPECIFIC DESCRIPTION**

Target amounts for non-outlier claims were established by dividing the hospital's average cost per discharge for non-outlier claims by the hospital's case mix index. To ensure budget neutrality, a hospital's target amount will be adjusted annually for any change in that hospital's case mix index resulting from the establishment of new program specific weight factors.

The case mix index for a hospital was calculated by accumulating the weight factors for all claims submitted during the base period and dividing by the number of claims.

**SERVICES COVERED BY DIAGNOSTIC RELATED GROUP PAYMENTS**

The Department will adopt Medicare's definition of inpatient hospital services covered by DRG payment. As a result, billing for physician services must be made on a separate CMS 1500 form.

**OUTLIER PAYMENTS**

The Department will make additional payments to hospitals for discharges which meet the criteria of an "outlier." An outlier is a case with extremely high charges which exceed cost outlier thresholds.

A claim will qualify for a cost outlier payment when 70% of billed charges exceed the larger of \$49,620 or 1.5 times the DRG payment for the claim. The additional payment allowed for a cost outlier will be 90% of the difference between 70% of billed charges and the larger of \$49,620 or 1.5 times the DRG payment.

The total payment allowed for an outlier claim will be the DRG payment plus the outlier payment plus the daily capital/education amount for each day of the hospital stay.