
Table of Contents

State/Territory Name: Washington

State Plan Amendment (SPA) #: 17-0004

This file contains the following documents in the order listed:

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

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
Seattle Regional Office
701 Fifth Avenue, Suite 1600, MS/RX-200
Seattle, WA 98104



Division of Medicaid & Children's Health Operations

April 17, 2017

Dorothy Frost Teeter, Director
MaryAnne Lindeblad, Medicaid Director
Health Care Authority
PO Box 45502
Olympia, WA 98504-5010

RE: Washington State Plan Amendment (SPA) Transmittal Number 17-0004.

Dear Ms. Teeter and Ms. Lindeblad:

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) has completed its review of State Plan Amendment (SPA) Transmittal Number WA 17-0004. This SPA updated the fee schedules for Ambulatory Surgery Centers (ASC), Dental services, Home health services, Outpatient Prospective Payment Systems (OPPS), and Outpatient hospital Services.

This SPA is approved with an effective date of January 1, 2017.

If there are additional questions please contact me, or your staff may contact James Moreth at James.Moreth@cms.hhs.gov or (360) 943-0469.

Sincerely,

Digitally signed by David L. Meacham



Date: 2017.04.21 09:43:33 -0700'

David L. Meacham
Associate Regional Administrator

cc:
Ann Myers, SPA Coordinator

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

1. TRANSMITTAL NUMBER:
17-0004

2. STATE
Washington

FOR: HEALTH CARE FINANCING ADMINISTRATION

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
Jan. 1, 2017

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:
Section 1905(a) of the Social Security Act

7. FEDERAL BUDGET IMPACT:
a. FFY 2016 \$0
b. FFY 2017 \$0

8. PAGE NUMBER OF THE PLAN SECTION OR ATTACHMENT:
Attachment 4.19-B pages 5, 14, 16, 16-1, 16-3, 16-4, 19

9. PAGE NUMBER OF THE SUPERSEDED PLAN SECTION
OR ATTACHMENT (*If Applicable*)
Attachment 4.19-B pages 5, 14, 16, 16-1, 16-3, 16-4, 19

10. SUBJECT OF AMENDMENT

January 2017 Fee Schedule Updates

11. GOVERNOR'S REVIEW (*Check One*):

GOVERNOR'S OFFICE REPORTED NO COMMENT OTHER, AS SPECIFIED: Exempt
 COMMENTS OF GOVERNOR'S OFFICE ENCLOSED
 NO REPLY RECEIVED WITHIN 45 DAYS OF SUBMITTAL

CY OFFICIAL:

16. RETURN TO:
Ann Myers
Office of Rules and Publications
Legal and Administrative Services
Health Care Authority
626 8th Ave SE MS: 42716
Olympia, WA 98504-2716

13. TYPED NAME:
MARYANNE LINDEBLAD

14. TITLE:
MEDICAID DIRECTOR

15. DATE SUBMITTED:
1-31-17

FOR REGIONAL OFFICE USE ONLY

17. DATE RECEIVED:
1-31-17

18. DATE APPROVED:
4/17/17

PLAN APPROVED – ONE COPY ATTACHED

19. EFFECTIVE DATE OF APPROVED MATERIAL:
1-1-17

20. SIGNATURE: Digitally signed by David L. Meacham-S

21. TYPED NAME:
David L. Meacham

22. TITLE:
Associate Regional Administrator Date: 2017.04.21 09:44:42 -0700

23. REMARKS:

STATE PLAN UNDER TITLE XIX OF THE SOCIAL SECURITY ACT

STATE: WASHINGTON**POLICY AND METHODS USED IN ESTABLISHING PAYMENT RATES FOR EACH OF THE OTHER TYPES OF CARE OR SERVICE LISTED IN SECTION 1905 (A) OF THE ACT THAT IS INCLUDED IN THE PROGRAM UNDER THE PLAN (cont.)**

II. Clinic Services (cont.)

For clients enrolled with a managed care contractor, and effective April 1, 2014, the State anticipates that the managed care contractor will pay each clinic an encounter rate that is at least equal to the PPS rate specific to each clinic.

To ensure that the appropriate amounts are being paid to each clinic, the State will perform an analysis of the managed care contractor's data at least quarterly and verify that the payments made by the managed care contractor in the previous quarter were in compliance with Section 1902(bb)(5)(A) of the SSA. This process will apply to clinics reimbursed under the APM rate methodology and to clinics reimbursed under the PPS rate methodology.

At no time will a managed care organization be at risk for or have any claim to the supplemental payment portion of the rate which will be reconciled to ensure accurate payment of the obligated funds.

Covered services for Medicaid-Medicare patients are reimbursed as detailed in Supplement 1 to Attachment 4.19 (B), pages 1, 2, and 3.

Encounters are limited to one per client per day, except when:

- The client needs to be seen by different practitioners with different specialties; or
- The client needs to be seen multiple times on the same day due to unrelated diagnoses.

D. Non-hospital-owned Freestanding Ambulatory Surgery Centers

Freestanding ambulatory surgery centers (ASCs) are reimbursed in a manner similar to Medicare's ASC reimbursement model in effect prior to January 1, 2008. All ASC procedure codes are fit into one of nine payment groups, with each group having its own payment rate. New procedure codes are associated with the appropriate payment group based on their weights, which are set by CMS under its payment methodology in effect from January 1, 2008, forward. Any new procedure code is put into the payment group containing weights with which it is most similar. The agency pays for the first billed procedure code at 100%, the second at 50% and the third and subsequent procedure codes at zero.

Implantable devices are paid separately. For devices, the ASC bills the agency the amount the facility paid for the device, based on a manufacturer's invoice. The agency pays the invoiced amount.

Except as otherwise noted in the plan, fee schedule rates are the same for both governmental and private providers of these services. The agency's rates were set as of January 1, 2017, and are effective for dates of services on and after that date.

See 4.19-B I, General, #G for the agency's website where the fee schedules are published.

[Back to TOC](#)

STATE PLAN UNDER TITLE XIX OF THE SOCIAL SECURITY ACT

STATE: WASHINGTON

POLICY AND METHODS USED IN ESTABLISHING PAYMENT RATES FOR EACH OF THE OTHER TYPES OF CARE OR SERVICE LISTED IN SECTION 1905 (A) OF THE ACT THAT IS INCLUDED IN THE PROGRAM UNDER THE PLAN (cont.)

VI. Dental Services and Dentures

- A. The Medicaid agency pays directly to the specific provider the lesser of the usual and customary charge or a fee based on an agency fee schedule for dentures and dental services that are provided within their specific scope of practice by dentists, dental hygienists, and denturists throughout the state. There are no geographical or other variations in the fee schedule.
- B. The usual and customary charge is defined as that fee usually charged for a given service by an individual dentist, dental hygienist, or denturist to private patients (e.g., that provider's usual fee) and which fee is within the range of usual fees charged by dentists, dental hygienists, or denturists of similar training and experience.
- C. Except as otherwise noted in the plan, fee schedule rates are the same for both governmental and private providers of dentures, dental services and dental hygiene.

See 4.19-B I, General, #G for the agency's website where the fee schedules are published.

The agency's fee schedule rate was set as of January 1, 2017, and is effective for services provided on or after that date.

STATE PLAN UNDER TITLE XIX OF THE SOCIAL SECURITY ACT

State WASHINGTON

VIII. Institutional Services

A. Outpatient hospital services

Outpatient Prospective Payment System (OPPS)

Duplicate payment for services does not occur. Non-Critical Access Hospital (CAH) outpatient hospital services are reimbursed using the Medicaid agency's Outpatient Prospective Payment System (OPPS). Under OPPS, services are reimbursed using one of the following payment methods:

1. Payment Grouping
 - a. Ambulatory Patient Classifications
 - b. Enhanced Ambulatory Patient Groups
 - c. Supplemental Payments
2. Fee schedule
3. Hospital Outpatient Rate

1. Payment Grouping

- a. For dates of service prior to July 1, 2014, the agency uses the Ambulatory Patient Classifications (APC) to classify OPPS services.

Effective for dates of service on or after July 1, 2013, payments for services reimbursed using the APC method at Prospective Payment System hospitals (as defined in Attachment 4.19-A, Part 1) will decrease by twenty-four and fifty-five hundredths percent (24.55%) from the rates that were established for dates of admission on and after July 7, 2011. This adjustment is in accordance with Chapter 74.60 RCW, as amended by the Legislature in 2013. The July 1, 2013, rates will be four percent (4.00%) lower than the July 1, 2009, rates.

- b. Effective July 1, 2014, the agency uses the Enhanced Ambulatory Patient Groups (EAPG) to classify OPPS services. Under the EAPG system, the reimbursement of outpatient hospital services will include packaging of like services into groups with similar resource use.

For a significant procedure, the EAPG payment formula is as follows:

EAPG Relative Weight (RW) multiplied by the Hospital-Specific Conversion Factor multiplied by the Pricing Discount (if applicable) multiplied by the Policy Adjustor (if applicable)

To pay outpatient services under EAPG, the agency:

- i. Uses the national standard RWs developed by the 3M Corporation for determining relative resource intensity within the EAPG system. The relative weights are changed when grouper versions are changed. The relative weights effective January 1, 2017, are published on the agency's website. See 4.19-B, I, General, #G for the agency's website where the fee schedules are published.
- ii. The agency adjusts the weights to assure budget neutrality for payments overall.
- iii. Calculates a conversion factor for each hospital. Each conversion factor is based on a statewide standardized rate. The statewide standardized rate is determined at the time of rebasing as the maximum amount which can be used to ensure that aggregate outpatient reimbursement levels remain consistent. The statewide standardized rate is adjusted by a hospital-specific wage index and medical education component. See 4.19-B, I, General #G for the website where the fee schedules are published.

The formula for determining a hospital's specific conversion factor is: Statewide Standardized Rate x ((0.6 x WageIndex) + 0.4) / (1 - (DMECost/TotalCost))

STATE PLAN UNDER TITLE XIX OF THE SOCIAL SECURITY ACT

State WASHINGTON

VIII. Institutional Services (cont)

A. Outpatient hospital services (cont)

- iii. Uses the wage index information established and published by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) at the time the OPSS rates are set for the upcoming year. Wage index information reflects labor costs in the cost-based statistical area (CBSA) where a hospital is located.
- iv. Calculates the hospital-specific graduate medical education (GME) by dividing the direct GME cost reported on worksheet B, part 1, of the CMS cost report by the adjusted total costs from the CMS cost report.
- v. Uses the EAPG software to determine the following discounts:
 - Multiple Surgery/Significant Procedure – 50%
 - Bilateral Pricing – 150%
 - Repeat Ancillary Procedures – 50%
 - Terminated Procedures – 50%
- vi. Establishes a policy adjustor of 1.35 for services to clients age 17 and under, and establishes a policy adjustor of 1.10 for chemotherapy and combined chemotherapy/pharmacotherapy groups. These policy adjustors are not exclusive.

The statewide standardized conversion factor and all hospital-specific adjustments are effective January 1, 2017. See 4.19-B, I, General, #G for the agency's website where the fee schedule and conversion factors are published.

- c. Effective for dates of admission on or after July 1, 2013, supplemental payments will be paid for outpatient Medicaid services not to exceed the upper payment limit as determined by the available federal financial participation for fee-for-service claims. The supplemental payment is based on the distribution amount mandated by the legislature to the following hospital categories as defined in RCW 74.60.010:
 - Prospective Payment hospitals other than psychiatric or rehabilitation hospitals
 - Psychiatric hospitals
 - Rehabilitation hospitals
 - Border hospitals.

For hospitals designated as prospective payment system (PPS) hospitals, \$60,000,000 per state fiscal year. For hospitals designated as out-of-state border area hospitals, \$500,000 per state fiscal year.

The payment is calculated by applying the Medicaid fee-for-service rates in effect on July 1, 2009, to each hospital's Medicaid and CHIP outpatient fee-for-service claims and Medicaid and CHIP managed care encounter data for the base year as defined in RCW 74.60.010. This sum is divided by the aggregate total of all hospitals within each category to determine the individual hospital pro rata share percentage. The individual hospital payment is the pro rata percentage multiplied by the amount mandated to be distributed by the Legislature within each hospital category.

The payment will be made quarterly, by dividing the total annual disbursement amount by four (4) to calculate the quarterly amount.

STATE PLAN UNDER TITLE XIX OF THE SOCIAL SECURITY ACT

STATE: WASHINGTON

VIII. Institutional Services (cont)

A. Outpatient hospital services (cont)

2. Fee Schedule

For non-CAH hospitals and covered services not paid using the OPPS or the "hospital outpatient rate", the agency pays the lesser of the usual and customary charge or a fee based on an agency fee schedule for covered procedures.

Services paid using the agency's fee schedule include, but are not limited to, physical therapy, occupational therapy, speech/language therapy, corneal transplants, and other hospital services as identified and published by the agency.

Except as otherwise noted in the plan, fee schedule rates are the same for both governmental and private providers of outpatient hospital services. The agency's outpatient fee schedule is effective for services provided on and after January 1, 2017. The fee schedule is updated quarterly in a budget neutral manner. See 4.19-B, I, General, #G for the agency's website where the fee schedules are published.

STATE PLAN UNDER TITLE XIX OF THE SOCIAL SECURITY ACT

STATE: WASHINGTON

A. Outpatient hospital services (cont)

3. Hospital Outpatient Rate

The "hospital outpatient rate" is a hospital-specific rate having as its base the hospital's inpatient ratio of costs-to-charges (RCC) adjusted by an outpatient adjustment factor that factors annual cost and charge level changes into the rate. The "hospital outpatient rate" is used to reimburse under OPSS as explained earlier in this subsection, or for non-CAH hospitals exempt from the agency's OPSS, for all other covered outpatient services (those not mentioned in the previous paragraphs as covered by fee schedule) on the hospital's outpatient claim.

Except as otherwise noted in the plan, fee schedule rates are the same for both governmental and private providers of outpatient hospital services. The agency's outpatient fee schedule is effective for services provided on and after January 1, 2017. See 4.19-B, I, General, #G for the agency's website where the fee schedules are published.

STATE PLAN UNDER TITLE XIX OF THE SOCIAL SECURITY ACT

STATE: WASHINGTON

POLICY AND METHODS USED IN ESTABLISHING PAYMENT RATES FOR EACH OF THE OTHER TYPES OF CARE OR SERVICE LISTED IN SECTION 1905 (A) OF THE ACT THAT IS INCLUDED IN THE PROGRAM UNDER THE PLAN (cont.)

IX. Other Noninstitutional Services

A. Home Health

1. Home Health Agencies are reimbursed per-visit for services provided by acute nursing staff, physical therapy, occupational therapy, speech, hearing and language disorders therapy staff, and home health aides.

Reimbursement rates are determined using a historical base for the per-visit rates by profession, using the Medicare Metropolitan Statistical Area fees. Rate changes made through the Vendor Rate Increase (VRI) may be made only through the legislative process. Selected rates may also be adjusted through a special appropriation directed by the Washington State Legislature. The agency may set rates outside of the legislative process if the agency determines such actions are necessary to maintain access to critical services. The Washington State Legislature approved a \$10.00 per hour rate increase for skilled nursing services provided in a home setting, effective for services provided on and after July 1, 2016.

The agency pays the lesser of the usual and customary charge or a fee based on an agency fee schedule for these services.

Except as otherwise noted in the plan, fee schedule rates are the same for both governmental and private providers of these services. The fee schedule is effective for services provided on and after January 1, 2017. See 4.19-B, I, General, #G for the agency's website where the fee schedules are published.

2. Other Supplies and Services used in the home and other setting

The agency's reimbursement rates include:

- a) Any adjustments or modifications to the equipment that are either required within three months of the delivery date, or are covered under the manufacturer's warranty
- b) Pick-up, delivery, or associated costs such as mileage, travel time, or gas
- c) Telephone calls
- d) Shipping, handling, and postage
- e) Fitting and setting up
- f) Maintenance of rented equipment
- g) Instructions to the client or client's caregiver about the safe and proper use of the equipment and supplies

The equipment, supplies, and services for parenteral nutrition, home infusion therapy, oxygen, and respiratory care are reimbursed using the CMS DMEPOS Fee Schedule less a specified percentage. In April 2012, this specific percentage reduction was established at 3.5 percent as a result of a negotiated agreement with providers. For those items and services that are not listed on CMS DMEPOS Fee Schedule, the agency uses flat fee (based upon market value, other state's fees, budget impacts, etc.) or by-report methodology (based on a percentage of billed charges).

Except as otherwise noted in the plan, fee schedule rates are the same for both governmental and private providers of these services and supplies. See 4.19-B, I, General, #G for the agency's website where the fee schedules are published.