

## **Table of Contents**

**State/Territory Name: South Carolina**

**State Plan Amendment (SPA) #: 23-0004**

This file contains the following documents in the order listed:

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

**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES**

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services  
601 E. 12th St., Room 355  
Kansas City, Missouri 64106



Medicaid and CHIP Operations Group

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October 12, 2023

Robert M. Kerr, Director  
South Carolina Department of Health & Human Services  
P.O. Box 8206  
Columbia, South Carolina 29202-8206

Re: South Carolina State Plan Amendment (SPA) 23-0004

Dear Director Kerr:

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) reviewed your Medicaid State Plan Amendment (SPA) submitted under transmittal number (TN) 23-0004. This SPA proposes to allow pharmacists to screen individual patients for hormonal contraception and administer through a standing order.

We conducted our review of your submittal according to the Social Security Act Section 1905 (a) (6) and South Carolina General Assembly State Bill 628. This letter is to inform you that South Carolina's Medicaid SPA 23-0004 was approved on October 12, 2023, with an effective date of October 1, 2023.

Enclosed are copies of the approved CMS-179 summary form and the approved SPA pages to be incorporated into the South Carolina State Plan.

If you have any questions, please contact Etta Hawkins at (404) 562-7429 or via email at [Etta.Hawkins@cms.hhs.gov](mailto:Etta.Hawkins@cms.hhs.gov).

Sincerely,



Ruth A. Hughes, Acting Director  
Division of Program Operations

Enclosures

cc: Margaret Alewine  
Sheila Chavis

<b>TRANSMITTAL AND NOTICE OF APPROVAL OF STATE PLAN MATERIAL FOR: CENTERS FOR MEDICARE &amp; MEDICAID SERVICES</b>	1. TRANSMITTAL NUMBER <u>2 3 — 0 0 0 4</u>	2. STATE <u>S C</u>
	3. PROGRAM IDENTIFICATION: TITLE OF THE SOCIAL SECURITY ACT <input checked="" type="radio"/> XIX <input type="radio"/> XXI	
TO: CENTER DIRECTOR CENTERS FOR MEDICAID & CHIP SERVICES DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES	4. PROPOSED EFFECTIVE DATE <p style="text-align: center;">October 1, 2023</p>	
5. FEDERAL STATUTE/REGULATION CITATION SC General Assembly S.628 <b>SSA Section 1905(a)(6)</b>	6. FEDERAL BUDGET IMPACT (Amounts in WHOLE dollars) a. FFY <u>2023 2024</u> \$ <u>0 14,700</u> b. FFY <u>2024 2025</u> \$ <u>14,700 14,800</u>	
7. PAGE NUMBER OF THE PLAN SECTION OR ATTACHMENT  Attachment 3.1-A Limitation Supplement, page 4b  Attachment 4.19-B, page 3, 3a	8. PAGE NUMBER OF THE SUPERSEDED PLAN SECTION OR ATTACHMENT (If Applicable)  Attachment 3.1-A Limitation Supplement, page 4b  Attachment 4.19-B, page 3, 3a	

9. SUBJECT OF AMENDMENT  
  
To allow pharmacists to screen individual patients for hormonal contraception and administer through a standing order.

10. GOVERNOR'S REVIEW (Check One)

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

11. AGENCY OFFICIAL 	15. RETURN TO South Carolina Department of Health and Human Services Post Office Box 8206 Columbia, SC 29202-8206  Mr. Kerr was designated by the Governor to review and approve all State Plans.
12. TYPED NAME Robert M. Kerr	
13. TITLE Director	
14. DATE SUBMITTED July 10, 2023	

**FOR CMS USE ONLY**

16. DATE RECEIVED July 19, 2023	17. DATE APPROVED October 12, 2023
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**PLAN APPROVED - ONE COPY ATTACHED**

18. EFFECTIVE DATE OF APPROVED MATERIAL October 1, 2023	19. SIGNATURE OF APPROVING OFFICIAL 
20. TYPED NAME OF APPROVING OFFICIAL Ruth A. Hughes	21. TITLE OF APPROVING OFFICIAL Acting Director, Division of Program Operations

22. REMARKS

**PEN AND INK CORRECTIONS AUTHORIZED BY THE STATE 9/5/23**

Licensed Registered Dietitian - Licensed registered dietitians are authorized to provide medical nutrition therapy services. The duties and responsibilities include nutritional diagnostic, therapy, and counseling services provided for the purpose of managing obesity and other diseases. Covered services will consist of nutrition assessment, interventions, reassessment, and follow-up interventions when it is prescribed/referred by a physician. The scope of practice is limited to that which is allowed under State Law.

Licensed Pharmacist - Licensed Pharmacists are authorized to perform certain services pertaining to their specific approved written protocols. The scope of their practice is limited to that which is allowed under State Law.

7. HOME HEALTH CARE SERVICES - Home health services are provided by a licensed and certified home health agency to eligible beneficiaries who are affected by illness or disability.

SC 23-0004  
EFFECTIVE DATE: 10/01/23  
APPROVAL DATE: 10/12/23  
SUPERSEDES: SC 13-008

6.a Podiatrists' Services:

Reimbursement is calculated at 100 percent of the Medicaid Physician Fee Schedule. The fee schedule payments are the same for both governmental and private providers. Medicaid bulletins informing the providers of the fee schedule rate changes, as well as the fee schedule itself, are available on the agency's website at <https://www.scdhhs.gov/Providers/fee-schedules>.

6.b Optometrists' Services (Vision Care Services):

Reimbursement is calculated at 100 percent of the Medicaid Physician Fee Schedule. The agency's fee schedule rates were set as of July 1, 2020 and are effective for services provided on or after that date. The fee schedule payments are the same for both governmental and private providers. Medicaid bulletins informing the providers of the fee schedule rate changes, as well as the fee schedule itself, are available on the agency's website at <https://www.scdhhs.gov/Providers/fee-schedules>.

6.c Chiropractor's Services:

Reimbursement is calculated at 100 percent of the Medicaid Physician Fee Schedule. The fee schedule payments are the same for both governmental and private providers. Medicaid bulletins informing the providers of the fee schedule rate changes, as well as the fee schedule itself, are available on the agency's website at <https://www.scdhhs.gov/Providers/fee-schedules>.

6.d Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist (CRNA): CRNAs under the medical direction of a surgeon will be reimbursed at 90 percent of the Anesthesiologist reimbursement rate. CRNAs under the medical direction of an Anesthesiologist will receive 50 percent of the reimbursement rate. Refer to the Physician Services Section 5, in Attachment 4.19-B. Medicaid bulletins informing the providers of the fee schedule rate changes, as well as the fee schedule itself, are available on the agency's website at <https://www.scdhhs.gov/Providers/fee-schedules>.

Nurse Practitioner: Reimbursement is calculated at 80 percent of the Medicaid Physician fee schedule. The fee schedule payments are the same for both governmental and private providers. Medicaid bulletins informing the providers of the fee schedule rate changes, as well as the fee schedule itself, are available on the agency's website at <https://www.scdhhs.gov/Providers/fee-schedules>.

Physician Assistant: Reimbursement is calculated at 80 percent of the Medicaid Physician fee schedule. The fee schedule payments are the same for both governmental and private providers. Medicaid bulletins informing the providers of the fee schedule rate changes, as well as the fee schedule itself, are available on the agency's website at <https://www.scdhhs.gov/Providers/fee-schedules>.

Psychologists: Psychological services are reimbursed at an established statewide fee schedule as determined in accordance with section 13.d of Attachment 4.19-B.

Registered Dietitian: The state developed fee schedule rate for this service effective on or after April 1, 2013, is \$27.82 per encounter and is paid to both private and governmental providers. Medicaid bulletins informing the providers of the fee schedule rate changes, as well as the fee schedule itself, are available on the agency's website at <https://www.scdhhs.gov/Providers/fee-schedules>.

Licensed Pharmacist: Reimbursement is calculated at 80 percent of the Medicaid Physician fee schedule. The fee schedule payments are the same for both governmental and private providers. Medicaid bulletins informing the providers of the fee schedule rate changes, as well as the fee schedule itself, are available on the agency's website at <https://www.scdhhs.gov/Providers/fee-schedules>.

7. Home Health Services:

Nursing Services, Home Health Aide Services, Physical Therapy, Occupational Therapy, Speech Pathology, and Audiology are provided and reimbursed based on the lesser of allowable Medicaid costs, charges, or the Medicaid cost limits as defined in the plan that are based upon Medicare allowable cost definitions and Medicare cost limits. At the end of each Home Health Agency's fiscal year end, an actual cost report must be submitted which is used for the purpose of completing a cost settlement based on the lesser of allowable Medicaid costs, charges, or the cost limits.

Effective for cost reporting periods beginning on or after October 1, 2000, the Medicare per-visit limits used in Home Health rate determinations will be those published in the August 5, 1999 Federal Register for cost reporting periods beginning on or after October 1, 1999. Medical supplies, which are used in the provision of routine home health services, are initially reimbursed on charges; however, during the fiscal year end cost settlement, an adjustment is made reflective of the cost to charges ratio for medical supplies. For all equipment and supplies not routinely provided during the course of a Home Health visit and purchased through a home health agency, the agency will be reimbursed in accordance with Section 12 c of this plan 4.19-B. The payment rate for DME is based on a state specific fee schedule. Effective for dates of service on or after January 1, 2022, the rates for incontinence supplies billed using Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System (HCPCS) codes A4554, T4521, T4522, T4523, T4524, T4525, T4526, T4527, T4528, T4529, T4530, T4531, T4532, T4533, T4534, T4535, T4543, and T5999 will increase by ten percent(10%). Except as otherwise noted in the plan, state-developed fee schedule rates are the same for both governmental and private providers. The rate was last updated on January 1, 2022. Supplies are exempt from co-payment requirements.

Effective October 1, 2000, Home Health Agencies entering the Medicaid program for the first time will be reimbursed at the lesser of Medicare cost limits based on the per-visit limits as published in the August 5, 1999 Federal Register, charges, or an interim rate established by the Medicaid State Agency until the submission of actual costs.

9. Clinical Services:

Clinic services are preventive, diagnostic, therapeutic, rehabilitative, or palliative items or services that meet all of the following criteria:

- Services provided to outpatients,
  - Services provided by a facility that is not part of a hospital, but is organized and operated to provide medical care to outpatients,
- Services furnished by or under the direction of a physician.

Covered clinical services are described in Attachment 3.1-A, page 5 and 5a, of the State Plan. The reimbursement methodologies described in section 9, Clinical Services, have been established to provide adequate payments to the providers of these services.

End Stage Renal Disease- Reimbursement for ESRD treatments, either home or in center, will be an all-inclusive fee based on the statewide average of the composite rates established by Medicare. The reimbursement will be an all-inclusive fee to include the purchase or rental, installation and maintenance of all equipment.

**Ambulatory Surgical Centers (ASC)**

Services provided in an ASC are reimbursed by means of a facility fee and the physician's professional fee. The reimbursement methodology for the professional component is covered in Section 5 2a.2 of 4.19-B. The facility fee is an all inclusive rate based on payment groups. Each surgical procedure is categorized into one of nine payment groups based on Medicare guidelines for assignment. The facility services covered under the all-inclusive rate include but are not limited to:

SC 23-0004  
EFFECTIVE DATE: 10/01/23  
APPROVAL DATE: 10/12/23  
SUPERSEDES: SC 22-0001