



NC DEPARTMENT OF
**HEALTH AND
HUMAN SERVICES**
Division of Health Benefits

ROY COOPER • Governor
KODY H. KINSLEY • Secretary
JAY LUDLAM • Deputy Secretary, NC Medicaid

SIGNATURE REQUEST MEMORANDUM

TO: Jay Ludlam ^{DS}
FROM: Betty J. Staton, SPA Manager
RE: State Plan Amendment

Title XIX, Social Security Act
Transmittal #2023-0024

Purpose

Attached for your review and signature is a Medicaid State Plan amendment summarized below, and submitted on September 15, 2023, with a due date of September 18, 2023.

Clearance

This amendment has been reviewed for both accuracy and completeness by:

Betty J. Staton, Emma Sandoe, Melanie Bush, Lotta Crabtree, Adam Levinson

Background and Summary of Request

It is recommended that you sign this State Plan Amendment submission per Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) protocol as head of the Single State Agency administering the Medicaid program.

- Please find attached a State Plan Amendment (SPA) for the purpose of increasing the Medicaid rate paid for Obstetrics Maternal Bundle Payments for pregnancy care to at least seventy-one percent (71%) of the Medicare rate. It will also include a flat add-on rate of \$250.00 to be paid to Medicaid providers as an incentive for the use of group prenatal care visits by Medicaid beneficiaries.

The proposed effective date is July 01, 2023.

Your approval of this State Plan Amendment is requested. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me at (919) 538-3215.

State Plan Under Title XIX of the Social Security Act Medical
Assistance Program
State: North Carolina

- (c) Administration of Vaccinations whether furnished in the office, the patient's home, a hospital, a nursing facility or elsewhere, or billed under Physician, Nurse Practitioner, Physician Assistant, shall be reimbursed based on the North Carolina Medicaid Fee Schedule. The fee for the Administration of Vaccinations is based on the CMS regional maximum, not to exceed the Medicare established cap.

Administration of Vaccinations is not subject to cost settlement when reimbursement on the North Carolina Medicaid Fee Schedule is equal to the CMS regional maximum cap.

Increased Primary Care Service Payment 42 CFR 447.405, 447.410, 447.415

Enhanced Affordable Care Act (ACA) Payments for Primary Care Services as defined in section 1202 with dates of service effective January 1, 2013 – December 31, 2014 will be reimbursed at no less than the Medicare Cost Share rates in effect January 1, 2013 – December 31, 2014 or, if greater, the Medicare Resource-Based Relative Value Scale (RBRVS) physician fee schedule (PFS) in effect as of July 1, 2009.

- (d) Effective July 1, 2023, in adherence to Sections 4.2.(a) and 4.2.(b) of Session Law 2023-14 Senate Bill 20, the Medicaid rate of reimbursement for the following Maternity services codes will be paid at least seventy-one percent (71%) of the Medicare rate in effect as of July 21, 2023. Codes: 59400, 59409, 59410, 59425, 59426, 59430, 59510, 59514, 59515, 59610, 59612, 59614, 59618, 59620, 59622

Providers will be reimbursed a flat add-on incentive rate of \$250.00 when an individual Medicaid beneficiary participates in five (5) or more group prenatal care visits recorded and billed by one provider for the same Medicaid beneficiary.

The flat add-on incentive rate is pursuant to Clinical Policy 1E-6, Pregnancy Management Program N.C.G.S. § 108A-54.2., as an incentive to Medicaid providers for the use of group prenatal care visits by Medicaid beneficiaries.

Eligible Indian Health Services/638 Compact Tribal providers will be reimbursed at the OMB rate when rendering this service in a setting that has an applicable OMB rate.

State Plan Under Title XIX of the Social Security Act
Medical Assistance Program
State: North Carolina

PAYMENTS FOR MEDICAL AND REMEDIAL CARE AND SERVICES

Physician Assistant Services:

Payments for Physician Assistant Services covered under Attachment 3.1-A.1 are equal to the lower of the submitted charge or the appropriate fee from the North Carolina Medicaid Physician Assistant Services Fee Schedule. The agency's rates were set as of January 01, 2014 and are effective on or after that date. All rates are published on the website at https://ncdhhs.servicenowservices.com/fee_schedules. Except as otherwise noted in the plan, State developed fee schedule rates are the same for both governmental and private providers.

(a) Effective January 1, 2014, new Physician Assistant Services shall be reimbursed at 100 percent of the North Carolina Medicaid Physician Services Fee Schedule in effect at the time the service is established.

(b) Effective January 1, 2019, all Evaluation and Management codes ranging from 99201 to 99499 and any new codes established within that range as defined in Section 1202 of the Affordable Care Act (ACA) and paid to Physician Assistants shall be reimbursed based on the Medicare Resource-Based Relative Value Scale (RBRVS) physician fee schedule (PFS) in effect as of January 01, 2018. In addition to the ACA primary care practitioners, Obstetricians and Gynecologists shall also be included as primary care Physicians. Reimbursement shall be based on the following methodology:

The Physician Assistants Medicaid Facility rate is set at 85 percent of the Medicare Physician Facility rate.

The Physician Assistants Medicaid Non-Facility rate is set at 85 percent of the Medicare Physician Non-Facility rate.

(c) Effective July 1, 2023, in adherence to Sections 4.2.(a) and 4.2.(b) of Session Law 2023-14 Senate Bill 20, the Medicaid rate of reimbursement for the following Maternity services codes will be paid at least seventy-one percent (71%) of the Medicare rate in effect as of July 21, 2023. Codes: 59400, 59409, 59410, 59425, 59426, 59430, 59510, 59514, 59515, 59610, 59612, 59614, 59618, 59620, 59622

Providers will be reimbursed a flat add-on incentive rate of \$250.00 when an individual Medicaid beneficiary participates in five (5) or more group prenatal care visits recorded and billed by one provider for the same Medicaid beneficiary.

The flat add-on incentive rate is pursuant to Clinical Policy 1E-6, Pregnancy Management Program, N.C.G.S. § 108A-54.2., as an incentive to Medicaid providers for the use of group prenatal care visits by Medicaid beneficiaries.

Eligible Indian Health Services/638 Compact Tribal providers will be reimbursed at the OMB rate when rendering this service in a setting that has an applicable OMB rate.

Exceptions: Effective April 1, 2020, Physician Assistants' services rendered in calendar year 2019 and thereafter, will be set at 1 percent above the Medicaid Physician Assistant rates if the calculated rate is less than or equal to the Medicaid Physician Fee Schedule rate.

Effective December 1, 2022, circumcision codes 54150, 54160 and 54161 will be set at 200 percent of the 2009 Medicare Resource-Based Relative Value Scale (RBRVS) physician fee schedule (PFS) and adjusted annually going forward if the 2009 Medicare RBRVS is less than the Medicare RBRVS in effect January 1.

Effective December 1, 2022, psychiatric collaborative care codes 99492, 99493 and 99494 will be set at 120 percent of the 2022 Medicare Resource-Based Relative Value Scale (RBRVS) physician fee schedule (PFS) and adjusted annually if the 2022 Medicare RBRVS is less than the Medicare RBRVS in effect January 1.

State Plan Under Title XIX of the Social Security Act
Medical Assistance Program
State: North Carolina

PAYMENTS FOR MEDICAL AND REMEDIAL CARE AND SERVICES

Medical care and any other type of remedial care recognized under State law, furnished by licensed practitioners within the scope of their practice as defined by State law:

Chiropractic Services, Podiatry Services, Optometry Services, Nurse Practitioner Services, Independent Practitioner Services and Other Licensed Practitioner Services.

d. Nurse Practitioner Services:

Payments for Nurse Practitioner Services covered under Attachment 3.1-A.1 are equal to the lower of the submitted charge or the appropriate fee from the North Carolina Medicaid Nurse Practitioner Services Fee Schedule. The agency's rates were set as of January 1, 2014 and are effective on or after that date. All rates are published on the website at https://ncdhhs.servicenowservices.com/fee_schedules. Except as otherwise noted in the plan, State developed fee schedule rates are the same for both governmental and private providers.

(1) Effective January 1, 2014, rates for new Nurse Practitioner Services shall be reimbursed at 100 percent of the North Carolina Medicaid Physician Services Fee Schedule in effect at the time the service is established.

(2) Enhanced Payments for Pregnancy Medical Home Services will be made to licensed nurse practitioners for services provided by a Pregnancy Medical Home provider as specified in Attachment 3.1-B, Page 7(a) and Attachment 3.1-F. Reimbursement will be as described in Attachment 4.19-B Section 5, Page 4 of the State Plan. There shall be no cost settlement for any provider in any setting for these services reimbursed at the enhanced rates.

(3) Effective January 1, 2019, all Evaluation and Management codes ranging from 99201 to 99499 and any new codes established within that range as defined in Section 1202 of the Affordable Care Act (ACA) and paid to Nurse Practitioners shall be reimbursed based on the Medicare Resource-Based Relative Value Scale (RBRVS) physician fee schedule (PFS) in effect as of January 01, 2018. In addition to the ACA primary care practitioners, Obstetricians and Gynecologists shall also be included as primary care Physicians. Reimbursement shall be based on the following methodology:

The Nurse practitioner Medicaid Facility rate is set at 85 percent of the Medicare Physician Facility rate.

The Nurse practitioner Medicaid Non-Facility rate is set at 85 percent of the Medicare Physician Non-Facility rate.

(4) Effective July 1, 2023, in adherence to Sections 4.2.(a) and 4.2.(b) of Session Law 2023-14 Senate Bill 20, the Medicaid rate of reimbursement for the following Maternity services codes will be paid at least seventy-one percent (71%) of the Medicare rate in effect as of July 21, 2023. Codes: 59400, 59409, 59410, 59425, 59426, 59430, 59510, 59514, 59515, 59610, 59612, 59614, 59618, 59620, 59622

Providers will be reimbursed a flat add-on incentive rate of \$250.00 when an individual Medicaid beneficiary participates in five (5) or more group prenatal care visits recorded and billed by one provider for the same Medicaid beneficiary.

The flat add-on incentive rate is pursuant to Clinical Policy 1E-6, Pregnancy Management Program, N.C.G.S. § 108A-54.2., as an incentive to Medicaid providers for the use of group prenatal care visits by Medicaid beneficiaries.

Eligible Indian Health Services/638 Compact Tribal providers will be reimbursed at the OMB rate when rendering this service in a setting that has an applicable OMB rate.

Exceptions: Effective April 1, 2020, Nurse practitioners' services rendered in calendar year 2019 and thereafter, will be set at 1 percent above the Medicaid Nurse practitioner rates if the calculated rate is less than or equal to the Medicaid Physician Fee Schedule rate.

State Plan Under Title XIX of the Social Security Act
Medical Assistance
State: NORTH CAROLINA

PAYMENTS FOR MEDICAL AND REMEDIAL CARE AND SERVICE

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17. A. Nurse-Midwife Services.

Payments for Nurse-Midwife Services covered under Attachment 3.1-A.1 are equal to the lower of the submitted charge or the appropriate fee from the North Carolina Medicaid Nurse-Midwife Services Fee Schedule.

The agency’s rates were set as of January 1, 2014 and are effective on or after that date. All rates are published on the website at https://ncdhhs.servicenow.com/fee_schedules. Except as otherwise noted in the plan, State developed fee schedule rates are the same for both governmental and private providers.

Effective January 1, 2014, rates for new Nurse-Midwife Services rates shall be set at 98% percent of North Carolinas’ Medicaid Physician Services Fee Schedule.

Enhanced Payments for Pregnancy Medical Home Services will be made to licensed nurse midwives for services provided by a Pregnancy Medical Home provider as specified in Attachment 3.1-B, Page 7(a) and Attachment 3.1-F. Reimbursement will be as described in Attachment 4.19-B Section 5, Page 4 of the State Plan. There shall be no cost settlement for any provider in any setting for these services reimbursed at the enhanced rates.

Effective July 1, 2023, in adherence to Sections 4.2.(a) and 4.2.(b) of Session Law 2023-14 Senate Bill 20, the Medicaid rate of reimbursement for the following Maternity services codes will be paid at least seventy-one percent (71%) of the Medicare rate in effect as of July 21, 2023. Codes: 59400, 59409, 59410, 59425, 59426, 59430, 59510, 59514, 59515, 59610, 59612,59614, 59618,59620, 59622

Providers will be reimbursed a flat add-on incentive rate of \$250.00 when an individual Medicaid beneficiary participates in five (5) or more group prenatal care visits recorded and billed by one provider for the same Medicaid beneficiary.

The flat add-on incentive rate is pursuant to Clinical Policy 1E-6, Pregnancy Management Program, N.C.G.S. § 108A-54.2., as an incentive to Medicaid providers for the use of group prenatal care visits by Medicaid beneficiaries.

Eligible Indian Health Services/638 Compact Tribal providers will be reimbursed at the OMB rate when rendering this service in a setting that has an applicable OMB rate.