June 08, 2023

James Scott, Director
Division of Program Operations
Department of Health & Human Services
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
601 East 12th Street Room 355
Kansas City, Missouri 64106

SUBJECT: State Plan Amendment
Title XIX, Social Security Act
Transmittal #2023-0016

Dear Mr. Scott:

Please find attached a State Plan Amendment (SPA) that proposed to temporarily extend the following COVID-19 flexibilities as described below:

- Dental procedure code D9230 (Inhalation of Nitrous Oxide/Analgesia, Anxiolysis) by 40%, effective March 1, 2023, through June 30, 2023.
- Personal Care Services (PCS) by 5% and 10% along with an additional flat rate of $1.00, effective January 1, 2023, through June 30, 2023.
- Skilled Nursing Facilities (SNF) by $37.74, effective January 1, 2023, through June 30, 2023.

The proposed effective date is May 12, 2023- June 30, 2023.

Your approval of this State Plan Amendment is requested. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me or Cecilia Williams at (919) 270-2530.

Sincerely,

Jay Ludlam
Deputy Secretary, NC Medicaid

Enclosures
7.4.B Temporary Extension to the Disaster Relief Policies for the COVID-19 National Emergency

Effective the day after the end of the PHE until 06/30/2023 the agency temporarily extends the following election(s) of Section 7.4 (approved on XX/XX/XXX in SPA Number NC-23-0005) of the State plan:

Section E – Payments

Optional benefits described in Section D:

1. ___X___Newly added benefits described in Section D are paid using the following methodology:
   
a. ___Published fee schedules –
      
      Effective date (enter date of change): ____________
      
      Location (list published location): ____________

b. ___X___Other:

   Effective March 1, 2023, through June 30, 2023, NC Medicaid is implementing a temporary rate increase of 40% for dental procedure code D9230 (Inhalation of nitrous oxide/analgesia, anxiolysis).

Increases to state plan payment methodologies:

1. ___X___The agency increases payment rates for the following services:

   Effective January 1, 2023, a 5% and 10% temporary Covid-19 rate increase will be implemented for Personal Care Services (PCS) through the end of the PHE using HCBS 10% FMAP American Rescue Plan Act funds. An additional Uniform COVID-19 flat rate of $1.00 will also be added on top of the 5% and 10% temporary Covid-19 rate increases using HCBS 10% FMAP American Rescue Plan Act funds from January 1, 2023, through June 30, 2023.

   Effective January 1, 2023, through June 30, 2023, a Uniform COVID-19 rate of $37.74 will be applied to Skilled Nursing Facility rates.

   Tribal/Indian Health Service nursing facilities shall continue to be reimbursed in accordance with Attachment 4.19 D, page 24, Section .0109 of the current state plan.