

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
Atlanta Regional Office
61 Forsyth Street, Suite 4T20
Atlanta, Georgia 30303



DIVISION OF MEDICAID & CHILDREN'S HEALTH OPERATIONS

August 8, 2016

Dr. Linda Wiant, Chief
Medical Assistance Plans
Georgia Department of Community Health
2 Peachtree Street, NW, 40th Floor
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

RE: Title XIX State Plan Amendment (SPA), Transmittal # GA 16-0001

Dear Dr. Wiant:

We have reviewed the proposed Georgia State Plan Amendment 16-0001, which was submitted to the Atlanta Regional Office on June 29, 2016. This amendment will continue to allow primary care physicians and physician extenders that practice in family medicine, general internal medicine, obstetrics/gynecology, and pediatric medicine to receive a rate increase for certain primary care services to 100% of the Calendar Year 2014 Medicare physician fee schedule.

Based on the information provided, the Medicaid State Plan Amendment 16-0001 was approved on August 8, 2016. The effective date of this amendment is July 1, 2016. We are enclosing the approved HCFA-179 and the plan pages.

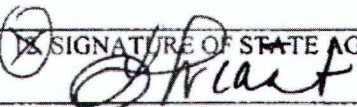


If you have any additional questions or need further assistance, please contact Amr Ali at (404) 840-1748 or Amr.Ali@CMS.HHS.GOV

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Melanie Johnson" with a small "AJ" or similar mark below it.

Jackie Glaze
Associate Regional Administrator
Division of Medicaid & Children's Health Operations

Enclosures

TRANSMITTAL AND NOTICE OF APPROVAL OF STATE PLAN MATERIAL		1. TRANSMITTAL NUMBER: 16-001	2. STATE GEORGIA
		3. PROGRAM IDENTIFICATION: TITLE XIX OF THE SOCIAL SECURITY ACT (MEDICAID)	
TO: REGIONAL ADMINISTRATOR CENTERS FOR MEDICARE AND MEDICAID SERVICES DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES		4. PROPOSED EFFECTIVE DATE July 1, 2016	
5. TYPE OF PLAN MATERIAL (Check One):			
<input type="checkbox"/> NEW STATE PLAN AMENDMENT TO BE CONSIDERED AS NEW PLAN <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AMENDMENT COMPLETE BLOCKS 6 THRU 10 IF THIS IS AN AMENDMENT (Separate Transmittal for each amendment)			
6. FEDERAL STATUTE/REGULATION CITATION: 42 C.F.R. § 447.205		7. FEDERAL BUDGET IMPACT: FFY 2016 \$16,211,693.00 FFY 2017 \$65,165,429.37	
8. PAGE NUMBER OF THE PLAN SECTION OR ATTACHMENT: Attachment 4.19B page 4.007 and 4.008		9. PAGE NUMBER OF THE SUPERSEDED PLAN SECTION OR ATTACHMENT (If Applicable): Attachment 4.19B page 4.007 and 4.008	
10. SUBJECT OF AMENDMENT: To allow primary care physicians and physician extenders that practice in family medicine, general internal medicine, obstetrics/gynecology, and pediatric medicine to receive a rate increase for certain primary care services to 100% of the Calendar Year 2014 Medicare physician fee schedule. The rate increase is effective July 1, 2016.			
11. GOVERNOR'S REVIEW (Check One):			
<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNOR'S OFFICE REPORTED NO COMMENT <input type="checkbox"/> COMMENTS OF GOVERNOR'S OFFICE ENCLOSED <input type="checkbox"/> NO REPLY RECEIVED WITHIN 45 DAYS OF SUBMITTAL		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER, AS SPECIFIED: Single State Agency Comments Attached	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SIGNATURE OF STATE AGENCY OFFICIAL: 		16. RETURN TO: Department of Community Health Division of Medicaid 2 Peachtree Street, NW, 36 th Floor Atlanta, Georgia 30303-3159	
13. TYPED NAME: LINDA WIANT			
14. TITLE: CHIEF, DIVISION OF MEDICAID			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DATE SUBMITTED:  6/22/16			
FOR REGIONAL OFFICE USE ONLY			
17. DATE RECEIVED: 06/29/16		18. DATE APPROVED: 08/08/16	
PLAN APPROVED - ONE COPY ATTACHED			
19. EFFECTIVE DATE OF APPROVED MATERIAL: 07/01/16		20. SIGNATURE OF REGIONAL OFFICIAL: 	
21. TYPED NAME: Jackie Glaze		22. TITLE: Associate Regional Administrator Division of Medicaid & Children Health Opns	
23. REMARKS:			

Increased Primary Care Service Payment 42 CFR 447.00

Physician Services – Primary Care Payment

The state will continue to reimburse for services provided by physicians with a primary specialty designation of family medicine, pediatric medicine or internal medicine as if the requirements of 42 CFR 447.00 remain in effect. The rates will be 100 percent of those in effect for these services and providers during CY 2014. A provider must meet one of the following requirements listed below to qualify for the enhanced payment.

- a. A provider must be Board certified with a specialty or subspecialty designation in family medicine, general internal medicine or pediatrics that is recognized by the American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS), the American Board of Physician Specialties (ABPS), or the American Osteopathic Association (AOA), and must actually practice their specialty.
- b. A non-board certified provider who practices in the field of family medicine, general internal medicine, or pediatrics or a subspecialty under one of the these specialties, is eligible if he/she can attest that 60 percent of their paid Medicaid procedures billed are for certain specified procedure codes for evaluation and management services and certain vaccines for children administration codes.
- c. Physician extenders (physician assistants, nurse practitioners and nurse midwives) are also eligible for increased payment for designated services as long as they practice under the supervision of an eligible physician with professional responsibility for the provision of care.

Physicians and physician extenders who are reimbursed through Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHC), Rural Health Centers (RHC), public health departments, nursing homes or a facility's encounter (visit, or per diem rate) or who are not practicing in one of the designated primary care specialties are not eligible for increased rates. Primary care physicians who receive supplemental reimbursement via the Physician Upper Payment Limit (UPL) Program are excluded from the provider rate increase.

The state will also reimburse at the above mentioned CY 2014 rates for services provided by physicians and physician extenders with an obstetrical and/or gynecological specialty designation.

Method of Payment

The state has adjusted its fee schedule to make payment at the higher rate for each E&M code.

Primary Care Services Affected by this Payment Methodology

This payment applies to Evaluation and Management (E&M) billing codes 99202-99205, 99212-99215, 99217, 99218, 99221, 99222, 99231-99233, 99238, 99239, 99244, 99381, 99460, 99462, 99468, 99469, 99477, and 99391-99395.

Physician Services – Vaccine Administration

The state reimburses vaccine administration furnished by physicians meeting the requirements of 42 CFR 447.00 (a) at the regional maximum administration fee set by the Vaccines for Children Program in 2014 for code 90460. Codes 90471 and 90472 are reimbursed at the Medicare fee schedule in effect for the CY 2014 under the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act rate increase for Medicaid primary care and vaccine administration.

Method of Payment – Vaccine Administration

The state has adjusted its fee schedule to make payment at the higher rate for each vaccine administration code.

Primary Care Services Affected by this Payment Methodology

This payment applies to vaccine administration billing codes 90460, 90471 and 90472.

Effective Date of Payment

E&M Services and Vaccine Administration

This reimbursement methodology applies to services delivered on and after July 1, 2016.

All rates are published at:

<https://www.mmis.georgia.gov/portal/PubAccess.Provider%20Information/Fee%20Schedules/tabId/56/Default.aspx> .