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Affordable Care Act – Primary Care Services Enhanced Reimbursement

The Affordable Care Act (ACA) requires Medicaid to reimburse specified primary care services at an enhanced rate when those services are rendered by or under the supervision of designated physicians during calendar years 2013 and 2014. Specified services are limited to:

- Evaluation and management, and
- Vaccine administration.

NOTE: Specified services are published on the ACA Enhanced Reimbursement fee schedules. (See Appendix A for information on accessing the fee schedule)

Provider Eligibility

Eligible providers are limited to designated physicians and physician assistants (PAs) or advanced practice registered nurses (APRNs) under the supervision of a designated physician as follows.

Physicians

Medical doctors or doctors of osteopathy must meet the federal requirements of a designated physician by attesting to a specialty or subspecialty designation within:

- Family medicine,
- General internal medicine, or
- Pediatric medicine.

The specialty or subspecialty designation must be supported by:

- Board certification by one of the following:
 - American Board of Medical Specialists (ABMS),
 - American Board of Physician Specialties (ABPS), or
 - American Osteopathic Association (AOA)

OR

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- Furnishing specified evaluation and management and vaccine administration services that equal at least 60 percent of total Medicaid codes paid, including those for individuals enrolled in a Bayou Health plan, during the most recently completed calendar year, or for newly eligible physicians the prior month.

NOTE: Codes paid will be measured in service units, not payment amounts.

A completed “Medicaid Primary Care Services Designated Physician Form” must be submitted to the fiscal intermediary (FI) for each eligible physician regardless of group affiliation. Eligibility is based on each individual physician meeting federal requirements. Forms may be submitted at any time, and there is no deadline for form submission. (See Appendix A for information on accessing this form)

NOTE: Physicians who contract with a Bayou Health plan and who are not separately enrolled as a Medicaid provider must submit their completed “Medicaid Primary Care Services Designated Physician Form” directly to the contracted Bayou Health plan(s) instead of the FI. The contracted Bayou Health plan(s) should be contacted for submission requirements.

Physician Assistants

PAs must meet federal requirements for physician supervision. The physician must assume professional responsibility and legal liability for services provided.

NOTE: This precludes “arms-length” arrangements or collaborative agreements with physicians for purposes of establishing a relationship that leads to higher payment of the non-physician practitioner services.

Advanced Practice Registered Nurses

APRNs must meet federal requirements for physician supervision. The physician must assume professional responsibility and legal liability for services provided.

NOTE: This precludes “arms-length” arrangements or collaborative agreements with physicians for purposes of establishing a relationship that leads to higher payment of the non-physician practitioner services.

APRNs must submit a completed “Medicaid Primary Care Services Advanced Practice Registered Nurse Form” to the FI. Forms may be submitted at any time, and there is no deadline for form submission. (See Appendix A for information on accessing this form)

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NOTE: APRNs who contract with a Bayou Health plan and who are not separately enrolled as a Medicaid provider must submit their completed “Medicaid Primary Care Services Advanced Practice Registered Nurse Form” directly to the contracted Bayou Health plan(s) instead of the FI. The contracted Bayou Health plan(s) should be contacted for submission requirements.

Effective Date for Enhanced Reimbursement**Physicians**

A physician’s effective date for enhanced reimbursement is based on the date a complete and correct “Medicaid Primary Care Services Designated Physician Form” is received by the FI. Incomplete or incorrect forms will be returned to the provider. The FI will mail a letter confirming receipt of the form which is used in establishing the effective date for enhanced reimbursement.

Receipt of Complete and Correct Form	Effective Date for Enhanced Reimbursement
By June 28, 2013	Eligible for enhanced reimbursement of eligible services rendered on or after January 1, 2013
After June 28, 2013	Eligible for enhanced reimbursement of eligible services rendered on or after the date the form is received.

Physicians must immediately notify the FI if they no longer meet requirements for enhanced reimbursement. The termination date will be the date the provider notifies the FI of ineligibility. The FI will send the provider confirmation of ineligibility that established the termination date for enhanced reimbursement.

Physician Assistants

A PA’s effective date for enhanced reimbursement is the effective date for the supervising physician that is identified in the “Referring Provider” field on the claim form.

Advanced Practice Registered Nurses

The effective date for enhanced reimbursement for an APRN who has a “Medicaid Primary Care Services Advanced Practice Registered Nurse Form” on file with the FI is the effective date for the supervising physician that is identified in the “Referring Provider” field of the claim form. Incomplete or incorrect forms will be returned to the provider. The FI will mail a letter confirming receipt of the form.

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APRNs must immediately notify the FI if they no longer meet requirements for enhanced reimbursement.

Physicians must immediately notify the FI if they or the APRNs they supervise no longer meet requirements for enhanced reimbursement. The termination date will be the date the FI is notified of ineligibility. The FI will send the provider confirmation of ineligibility that established the termination date for enhanced reimbursement.

Claims Related Information

Claims for specified services rendered by a PA or APRN under the supervision of a designated physician must have the supervising physician's "Medicaid Primary Care Services Designated Physician Form" on file effective the date of service.

NOTE: An APRN must also have a "Medicaid Primary Care Services Advanced Practice Registered Nurse Form" on file effective the date of service.

Eligible services rendered by a PA or APRN must be

- Be billed by a physician group,
- Identify the PA or APRN as the Rendering Provider, and
- Include the supervising physician's National Provider Identifier (NPI) in the "Referring Provider" field on the claim form.
 - Field 17b on the CMS 1500 form (paper)
 - NM1 segment with NPI as part of the segment on v5010 837P (Electronic claims). The NM1 segment may be billed at either the Claim level 2310A or the Line level 2420F

Services will not be eligible for the enhanced reimbursement when:

- Billed by an APRN practicing independently or in a nurse managed clinic,
- Billed on an encounter basis, including but not limited to Federally Qualified Health Centers and Rural Health Clinics,

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- Rendered by or under the supervision of a physician who does not meet the federal requirements of a designated physician,
- Rendered by or under the supervision of physicians who do not have the required “Medicaid Primary Care Services Designated Physician Form” on file effective for the date of service, or
- Rendered by an APRN who does not have the required “Medicaid Primary Care Services Advanced Practice Registered Nurse Form” on file effective for the date of service.

ACA enhanced reimbursement rates reflect Medicare **site of service adjustments**. (See Appendix H for additional information regarding place of service codes)

NOTE: A statistically valid sample of the “Medicaid Primary Care Services Designated Physician Form” and “Medicaid Primary Care Services Advanced Practice Registered Nurse Form” will be reviewed at least annually. If it is determined that a provider did not qualify for the enhanced rate for any reason, Medicaid will recoup any difference between the Medicaid rate and the enhanced rate paid for the service.