

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to 42 CFR § 447.205, the Oklahoma Health Care Authority (OHCA) is required to give public notice of any significant proposed changes to its methods and standards for setting payment rates for services.

The proposed changes below are effective January 1, 2018, or thereafter. Changes are necessary to reduce the OHCA's operations to balance the state budget in accordance with Article 10, Section 23, of the Oklahoma Constitution.

Nursing Facilities Supplemental Payment Program

The OHCA proposes to implement a supplemental payment program for nursing facilities owned, and as applicable, operated by non-state government owned (NSGO) entities effective January 1, 2018. The state plan amendment defines the scope, the payment methodology, and the payment frequency for the supplemental payment program up to the allowable Medicare upper payment limit (UPL) to qualified NSGOs. The estimated total federal budget impact for the Nursing Facilities Supplemental Payment Program State Plan Amendment is \$14,795,866 for the remainder of federal fiscal year (FFY) 2018 and \$19,727,821 for federal fiscal year (FFY) 2019. Additional federal dollars will be available by leveraging the gap between Medicaid and Medicare payments up to the UPL. It is estimated that this request will be budget neutral for the State as the NSGOs will bear the cost of providing the state share match for the program.

Outpatient Hospital Dental and ENT Rates

The OHCA proposes an increase in the reimbursement rate for certain outpatient dental services provided in an outpatient hospital. These services will be reimbursed on a cost basis effective on or after January 1, 2018. Dental and ear, nose, and throat (ENT) surgical procedures will be classified into a payment group based on CPT codes. A facility specific outpatient cost to charge ratio (CCR) from the hospital Medicare cost report will be used to determine average cost per unit by facility, then in total. All procedures within this payment group will be paid a single rate. The new rate for these services will be cost based and will equalize the rates to improve access for dental services to be rendered in the hospital setting.

The federal estimated budget impact for the remainder of Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2018 is \$28,258.95 and \$56,517.90 for FFY 2019. The result of the decrease in certain ENT rates and an increase in the dental rate make this change budget neutral for the State.

Persons wishing to present their views in writing or obtain copies of the proposed changes may contact: Demetria Bennett, Oklahoma Health Care Authority, 4345 N. Lincoln Blvd., Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, 73105, or by email at Demetria.Bennett@okhca.org.

Copies of the proposed changes are available for public review at the OHCA by contacting Demetria Bennett by telephone 405-522-7641 or at the email address above. She will link callers with local agencies in each county where copies of the proposed changes are available for public review.

Written and oral comments will be accepted during regular business hours by contacting Mrs. Bennett as indicated. Comments submitted will be available for review by the public Monday – Friday, 9 a.m. to 4:30p.m., at the OHCA address located above. The proposed changes may also be viewed and receive written comments on the agency's website at www.okhca.org/proposed-changes.