

Kentucky Medicaid Enhanced Primary Care Payments

Notifications to Providers

Information about the Enhanced Primary Care Payments

Effective January 1, 2013, certain healthcare providers who provide eligible primary care services to Medicaid clients are eligible to be paid the Medicare rates in effect in calendar years (CY) 2013 and 2014 instead of their usual state-established Medicaid rates. The enhanced rate is available for providers who are fee for service providers with Kentucky Medicaid, as well as eligible providers who are enrolled in the Kentucky managed care program. This enhanced rate will only be available for the limited periods of the calendar years 2013 and 2014. At the end of this period, the enhanced federal funding for this program sunsets and the enhanced rate for Medicaid services will end.

The increased payments will pertain to primary care services delivered by a physician (MD or DO) with a specialty designation of family medicine, general internal medicine, or pediatrics. Non-physician practitioners (PA or APRN) who are supervised by a physician that is eligible for the enhanced rate are also eligible to receive the enhanced rate. The increase will apply to a specific set of services and procedures that Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) designates as “primary care services.”

In order to qualify for the enhanced rates, eligible enrolled Kentucky Medicaid providers must attest to being a primary care physician by one of the following:

- Board certification as a primary care physician by the American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS), the American Board of Physician Specialties (ABPS), or the American Osteopathic Association (AOA) or
- Have furnished evaluation & management (E&M) and vaccines services that equal at least 60% of the Medicaid codes billed during the most recently completed fiscal year.

Kentucky Medicaid is currently undergoing programming changes to the Medicaid Management Information System (MMIS) to implement these enhanced payments to primary care providers. Payments will not begin until after January 1, 2013. Implementation is contingent upon completing the necessary system changes and approval by CMS of Kentucky Medicaid’s State Plan Amendment. Additional details regarding this initiative and its implementation will be provided in future bulletins.

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CMS Final Rule:

<http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2012-11-06/pdf/2012-26507.pdf>

Correction to final rule:

<http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2012-12-14/pdf/2012-29640.pdf>