Public Notice of Reimbursement Methodology for MO HealthNet Global Per Diem Adjustments to Nursing Facility and HIV Nursing Facility Reimbursement Rates

January 31, 2019

Pursuant to Sections 1902(a)13(A) of the Social Security Act and 42 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 447.205, which mandate that proposed changes in statewide Medicaid payment methods and standards for setting Medicaid payment rates be published and made available for review and comment, this is to advise that:

1. The Missouri Department of Social Services provides notice of the following:

To ensure efficiency, economy, quality of care, and access, 13 CSR 70-10.016 Global Per Diem Adjustments to Nursing Facility and HIV Nursing Facility Reimbursement Rates is being amended in conjunction with the State Plan for Prospective Reimbursement Plan for Nursing Facility and HIV Nursing Facility Services (submitted under State Plan Amendment Transmittal Number 19-0008). Effective for dates of service beginning February 1, 2019, the MO HealthNet Division (MHD) will change the reimbursement methodology for nursing facility and HIV nursing facility services, as detailed below. The change is contingent upon approval by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services.

There is a fiscal impact to hospice reimbursement as a result of the change in the nursing facility reimbursement because hospice room and board is based on the nursing facility per diem rate.

The reimbursement change is a result of the FY 19 supplemental budget appropriation for nursing facilities and the associated hospice room and board.

The MHD estimates a total increase in cost of approximately $5.0 million in expenditures as a result of this change. The increase to nursing facility reimbursement is approximately $4.6 million, composed of $1.6 million state funds and $3.3 million federal funds. The increase to hospice room and board is approximately $0.3 million, composed of $0.1 state funds and $0.2 federal funds.

Following is a summary of the changes to 13 CSR 70-10.016 and the State Plan:

A. Facilities with either an interim rate or a prospective rate in effect on February 1, 2019, shall be granted an increase to their per diem rate effective for dates of services February 1, 2019 through June 30, 2019, of one dollar and twenty-nine cents ($1.29) to allow for a trend adjustment to ensure quality nursing facility services;
B. The per diem adjustment of one dollar and twenty-nine cents ($1.29) shall be added to the facility’s rate as of January 31, 2019, and is effective for dates of service beginning February 1, 2019 through June 30, 2019.

C. Effective for dates of service beginning July 1, 2019, the per diem increase shall be reduced to fifty-four cents ($0.54). A per diem adjustment of seventy-five cents ($0.75) shall be deducted from the facility’s rate as of June 30, 2019, which includes the one dollar and twenty-nine cents ($1.29) increase, and is effective for dates of service beginning July 1, 2019.

D. These per diem adjustments are contingent upon approval by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services.

2. Comments may be sent by regular mail, express or overnight mail, in person or by courier within thirty days after publication of this notice and must be sent or delivered to the following address:

   MO HealthNet Division
   615 Howerton Ct., 2nd Floor
   Jefferson City, MO 65109
   Attention: Rebecca Rucker

   Comments may also be emailed to Ask.MHD@dss.mo.gov. Please use “Public Comment for Global Per Diem Adjustments to Nursing Facility and HIV Nursing Facility Reimbursement Rates” in the subject line. Comments must be received by March 2, 2019.

3. A copy of the proposed reimbursement methodology is available for public review by going to any Family Support Division Office or by contacting the Department of Social Services, MO HealthNet Division at Ask.MHD@dss.mo.gov. These documents also may be viewed online at https://dss.mo.gov/mhd/alerts~public-notices.htm

4. No public hearing will be held.