Public Notice of MO HealthNet Global Per Diem Adjustment to Nursing Facility and HIV Nursing Facility
Reimbursement Methodology

July 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 Missouri Medicaid State Plan (sections Prospective Reimbursement Plan for Nursing Facility Services and Prospective Reimbursement Plan for HIV Nursing Facility Services), being submitted under State Plan Amendment Transmittal Number 19-0011. Effective for dates of service beginning August 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 (CMS).

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

The reimbursement change is a result of the FY 2020 budget appropriation as set forth in CCS SCS HCS HB11 (2019) for nursing facility services and hospice nursing home room and board services.

The MHD estimates a total increase in cost of approximately $14.3 million in expenditures as a result of this change. The increase to nursing facility reimbursement is approximately $12.9 million, composed of $4.4 million state funds and $8.5 million federal funds. The increase to hospice nursing home room and board is approximately $1.4 million, composed of $0.5 million state funds and $0.9 million federal funds.

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

a. FY-2020 trend adjustment —
   i. Facilities with either an interim rate or a prospective rate in effect on August 1, 2019, shall be granted an increase to their per diem rate effective for dates of services August 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020, of one dollar and sixty-one cents ($1.61) to allow for a trend adjustment to ensure
quality nursing facility services;

ii. The rate to which the FY-2020 trend adjustment of one dollar and sixty-one cents ($1.61) shall be added is the facility’s rate as of July 31, 2019 set forth in Attachment 4-19D of the Missouri Medicaid State Plan, subparagraph (13)(A)23.C. of Page 52G for nursing facilities and subparagraph (13)(A)23.C. of Page 165H for HIV nursing facilities. The FY-2020 trend adjustment shall be effective for dates of service beginning August 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020.

iii. Effective for dates of service beginning July 1, 2020, the per diem increase shall be reduced to one dollar and forty-nine cents ($1.49). A per diem adjustment of twelve cents ($0.12) shall be deducted from the facility’s rate as of June 30, 2020, which includes the one dollar and sixty-one cents ($1.61) increase, and is effective for dates of service beginning July 1, 2020. This is contingent upon appropriation by the Missouri General Assembly and approval by the Governor.

2. Comments may be sent by regular mail, express or overnight mail, in person or by courier within thirty (30) 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 Nursing Facility Global Per Diem Rate Adjustment” in the subject line. Comments must be received by August 30, 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.