

NOTICE OF MAINECARE REIMBURSEMENT METHODOLOGY CHANGE

AGENCY: Department of Health and Human Services, Office of MaineCare Services

AFFECTED SERVICES: MaineCare Benefits Manual, Chapter III, Section 5, Ambulance Services

NATURE OF PROPOSED CHANGES: The Department will request approval to institute the following reimbursement rates for Ambulance Services. Medicare-covered codes will be reimbursed at 65% of the current published Maine Medicare area '99' rates, except for the following services which will continue to be reimbursed as follows:

Code	Code Description	Proposed Rate
A0430	Ambulance service, conventional air services, transport, one-way (fixed wing)	\$1,885.05
A0431	Ambulance service, conventional air services, transport, one-way (rotary wing)	\$2,811.00
A0434	Specialty care transport (SCT)	\$559.98
A0436	Rotary wing air mileage, per statute mile	\$25.45

Non-Medicare covered ambulance services will continue to be reimbursed based on a fee schedule, as described below:

Code	Code Description	Proposed Rate
A0021	Ambulance service; out of state, per mile transport	\$2.00
A0225	ambulance service; specialized neonatal transport, base rate emergency, one-way [ground][birth to 2 years of age]	\$300.00
A0420	Ambulance waiting time (ALS or BLS), one half (1/2) hour increments [starting with the second completed half hour at one half hour per unit]	\$95.00
A0424	Extra ambulance attendant, ALS or BLS	\$32.00
A0425	Ground mileage, per statute mile-involuntary admission to a psychiatric facility	\$8.00
A0428	Ambulance service, basic life support, non-emergency transport, [BLS]-involuntary admission to a psychiatric facility	\$285.00
A0998	Ambulance response and treatment, no transport	\$95.00
A0999	Unlisted ambulance service	actual cost

REASON FOR PROPOSED CHANGES: To conform to federal law 42 CFR 447.201(2), which requires that the State Plan describe, "the method to be used in setting payment rates for each type of service included in the State's Medicaid program."

ESTIMATE OF ANY EXPECTED INCREASE OR DECREASE IN ANNUAL AGGREGATE EXPENDITURES:
The Department does not anticipate any change in annual aggregate expenditures.

ACCESS TO PROPOSED CHANGES AND COMMENTS TO PROPOSED CHANGES: The public may review the proposed methodology changes and written comments at any Maine DHHS office in every Maine County. To find out where the Maine DHHS offices are, call 1-800-452-1926.

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