

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION

Public Notice: Texas State Plan Amendment for Event-based Rates for Potentially Preventable Readmissions

The Texas Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) announces its intent to submit an amendment, transmittal number 21-0012, to the Texas State Plan for Medical Assistance under Title XIX of the Social Security Act. The proposed amendment is effective September 1, 2021.

The purpose of this amendment is to revise HHSC's potentially preventable events program for reimbursement reductions for eligible hospitals. With the revision, HHSC would no longer weight potentially preventable readmissions when calculating a hospital's performance in relation to statewide norms.

The proposed amendment is estimated to result in an additional annual aggregate expenditure of \$208,702 for federal fiscal year (FFY) 2022, consisting of \$130,126 in federal funds and \$78,576 in state general revenue. For FFY 2023, the estimated additional annual expenditure is \$217,253, consisting of \$131,938 in federal funds and \$85,315 in state general revenue.

Rate Hearing. A public hearing was held on July 15, 2021 at 9:00am CST in a virtual setting based in Austin, Texas. Information about the proposed calculation change and the hearing can be found in the July 2, 2021 issue of the *Texas Register* at page 4047, which can be found at <http://www.sos.state.tx.us/texreg/index.html>.

Copy of Proposed Amendments. Interested parties may obtain additional information and/or a free copy of the proposed amendment by contacting Kevin Niemeyer, State Plan Coordinator/Tribal Liaison, by mail at the Health and Human Services Commission, P.O. Box 13247, Mail Code H-600, Austin, TX 78711 or by e-mail at Medicaid_Chip_SPA_Inquiries@hhsc.state.tx.us. Copies of the proposed amendment will be available for review at the local county offices of the Health and Human Services Commission.

Written Comments. Written comments regarding the proposed amendment and/or requests to review comments may be sent by U.S. mail, overnight mail, special delivery mail, hand delivery, fax, or e-mail.

U.S. Mail, Overnight Mail, Special Delivery Mail, or Hand Delivery

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