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Administrative Bulletin 20-23

101 CMR 361.00: Rate for Continuous Skilled Nursing Services

Eff. April 16, 2020

Rate Adjustment Applicable to Certain Continuous Skilled Nursing Services to

Address Costs Associated with COVID-19 Public Health Emergency

Purpose, Scope, and Effective Period

The Executive Office of Health and Human Services (EOHHS) is issuing this administrative bulletin pursuant to the authority of COVID-19 Order No. 20: *Order Authorizing the Executive Office of Health and Human Services to Adjust Essential Provider Rates During the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency* and Executive Order 591: *Declaration of State of Emergency to Respond to COVID-19*. In light of the state of emergency declared in the Commonwealth due to COVID-19, EOHHS, which administers the Massachusetts Medicaid program known as “MassHealth,” is temporarily adjusting rates for certain MassHealth-covered Continuous Skilled Nursing services established in 101 CMR 361.00, and as further described in this administrative bulletin. If a rate is not being adjusted pursuant to this administrative bulletin, the rate remains at the currently established rate.

This administrative bulletin is effective for dates of service from April 1, 2020, through July 31, 2020.

Disclaimer: This administrative bulletin is not authorization for a provider’s use of the adjusted rate or service. Authorization for the provision of, and billing and payment for, Continuous Skilled Nursing (CSN) services are pursuant to the MassHealth Home Health Agency regulations at 130 CMR 403.000 and Home MassHealth Independent Nurse regulations at 130 CMR 414.000.

Background

The COVID-19 public health emergency has unexpectedly increased the need for CSN services and has also made the delivery of these service more difficult and costly. Existing service rates do not contemplate these increased costs and changes in utilization patterns. Accordingly, EOHHS is establishing adjusted rates as described below that address the increased costs related to COVID-19 and to ensure the continued delivery of these critical services.



**Updated Rates for Certain Continuous Skilled Nursing Services to
Address Concerns Related to COVID-19**

		Shift	Procedure Code	Current Rate		Updated Rate	
				Agency	IN	Agency	IN
RN Services	Single Patient: Per 15 minutes	Weekday	T1002	\$13.30	\$10.93	\$14.63	\$12.02
		Nights	T1002, UJ	\$14.13	\$11.69	\$15.54	\$12.86
		Holidays	T1002	\$18.39	\$15.65	\$20.23	\$17.22
	Two Publicly Aided Patients: Per 15 minutes	Weekday	T1002, TT	\$18.71	\$15.79	\$20.58	\$17.37
		Nights	T1002, U1	\$19.92	\$16.94	\$21.91	\$18.63
		Holidays	T1002, TT	\$26.32	\$22.88	\$28.95	\$25.17
	Three Publicly Aided Patients: Per 15 minutes	Weekday	T1002, U2	\$22.35	\$18.32	\$24.59	\$20.15
		Nights	T1002, U3	\$23.78	\$19.65	\$26.16	\$21.62
		Holidays	T1002, U2	\$31.25	\$26.59	\$34.38	\$29.25
	Overtime: Per 15 minutes	Weekday	T1002, TU	\$18.39	\$15.65	\$20.23	\$17.22
		Nights	T1002, U4	\$19.62	\$16.80	\$21.58	\$18.48
		Holidays	T1002, TU	\$26.02	\$22.74	\$28.62	\$25.01
LPN Services	Single Patient: Per 15 minutes	Weekday	T1003	\$10.97	\$9.10	\$12.07	\$10.01
		Nights	T1003, UJ	\$11.66	\$9.75	\$12.83	\$10.73
		Holidays	T1003	\$15.26	\$13.11	\$16.79	\$14.42
	Two Publicly Aided Patients: Per 15 minutes	Weekday	T1003, TT	\$15.51	\$13.21	\$17.06	\$14.53
		Nights	T1003, U1	\$16.53	\$14.17	\$18.18	\$15.59
		Holidays	T1003, TT	\$21.95	\$19.21	\$24.15	\$21.13
	Three Publicly Aided Patients: Per 15 minutes	Weekday	T1003, U2	\$18.82	\$15.32	\$20.70	\$16.85
		Nights	T1003, U3	\$20.03	\$16.45	\$22.03	\$18.10
		Holidays	T1003, U2	\$26.35	\$22.32	\$28.99	\$24.55
	Overtime: Per 15 minutes	Weekday	T1003, TU	\$15.26	\$13.11	\$16.79	\$14.42
		Nights	T1003, U4	\$16.30	\$14.07	\$17.93	\$15.48
		Holidays	T1003, TU	\$21.71	\$19.09	\$23.88	\$21.00

Public Comment

EOHHS will accept comments on the rate established via this administrative bulletin through April 30, 2020. Individuals may submit written comments by emailing ehs-regulations@state.ma.us. Please submit written comments as an attached Word document or as text within the body of the email with the name of this administrative bulletin in the subject line. All submissions of comments must include the sender's full name, mailing address, and organization or affiliation, if any. Individuals who are unable to submit comments by email may mail written comments EOHHS, c/o D. Briggs, 100 Hancock Street, 6th Floor, Quincy, MA 02171.

EOHHS may adopt a revised version of this administrative bulletin taking into account relevant comments and any other practical alternatives that come to its attention.