

## **Notice of Proposed Agency Action**

**SUBJECT:** MassHealth: Pay-for-Performance for In-State Acute Inpatient Hospital Services, effective June 30, 2020

**AGENCY:** Massachusetts Executive Office of Health and Human Services (EOHHS), Office of Medicaid

EOHHS hereby announces proposed revisions to the Rate Year 2020 Pay-for-Performance methodology for in-state acute inpatient hospitals, effective June 30, 2020. These proposed revisions will:

1. Give acute inpatient hospitals the option to report data regarding the individual process measures (cesarean birth measure, exclusive breast milk feeding measure, and the three measures that comprise the care coordination measure) for the fourth quarter of Calendar Year 2019 (Q4 2019 Data).
  - a. For each hospital that elects not to report Q4 2019 Data, the comparative measurement period for each of its individual process measures will change from Calendar Year 2019 to the first three quarters of Calendar Year 2019.
  - b. For each hospital that elects to report Q4 2019 Data, the comparative measurement period for each of its individual process measures will remain as Calendar Year 2019.
2. Eliminate case minima for the individual process measures and the health disparities measure;
3. Extend the deadline for hospitals to report certain data;
4. Eliminate the requirement that hospitals report data for the first two quarters of Calendar Year 2020; and
5. Provide technical corrections to the methodology for calculating the total performance score for the Patient Experience and Engagement Measure.

All changes to the hospital payment methods described in this Notice are in accordance with state and federal law and are within the range of reasonable payment levels to acute hospitals.

EOHHS estimates there will be no impact to annual aggregate expenditures for MassHealth state plan acute inpatient hospital services as a result of this change.

Other than as set forth in this Notice, the RY20 acute inpatient hospital payment methods described in the rate year 2020 Notice of Final Agency Action, published on or about October 30, 2019 (“Final RY20 Notice”), will remain unchanged. The Final RY20 Notice is available under the heading “Acute Hospital Federal Fiscal Year 2020 Notices” on the “Special notices for acute hospitals” page of the MassHealth website at [www.mass.gov/service-details/special-notices-for-acute-hospitals](http://www.mass.gov/service-details/special-notices-for-acute-hospitals). For further information, or to provide written comments regarding this action, you may also contact Steven Sauter at the Executive Office of Health and Human Services, MassHealth Office of Providers and Pharmacy Programs, 100 Hancock Street, 6<sup>th</sup> Floor, Quincy, MA 02171 or at [steven.sauter@mass.gov](mailto:steven.sauter@mass.gov). EOHHS specifically invites comments regarding the impact of the proposed action on member access to care.

**Statutory Authority:** M.G.L. c. 118E; St. 2019, c. 41; St. 2012, c. 224; 42 USC 1396a; 42 USC 1396b.

**Related Regulations:** 130 CMR 410, 415, 450; 42 CFR Parts 431 and 447.

Posted: June 09, 2020