

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to 42 C.F.R. § 447.205, the Georgia Department of Community Health is required to give public notice of any significant proposed change in its methods and standards for setting payment rates for services.

INPATIENT HOSPITAL PROSPECTIVE PAYMENT SYSTEM

Pending CMS approval and effective for services provided on or after April 1, 2014, the Department is proposing a cost neutral update to the Medicaid and PeachCare Inpatient Prospective Payment System (IPPS). DCH proposes the following:

- To rebase to a more current Diagnosis-Related Group (DRG) Classification System;
- To update cost and claims data to a more recent year; and,
- To make revisions as appropriate to peer group base rates, DRG specific weights, cost to charge ratios, outlier thresholds and add-on payments.

Since January 1, 2008, the Department has reimbursed inpatient hospital claims using a DRG per case rate based on the Tricare Grouper Version 24. These are DRGs that were in effect from October 1, 2006 through September 30, 2007 for the health care program operated by the U.S. Department of Defense Military Health System. The cost and claims data used to develop current Georgia Medicaid and PeachCare inpatient hospital rates was from 2004 and 2005.

The Department is proposing to rebase to Tricare Grouper Version 30 (in effect from October 1, 2012 through September 30, 2013 for the U.S. Military Health System) and to update to cost and claims data in effect for 2011 and 2012.

This public notice is available for review at each county Department of Family and Children Services office. An opportunity for public comment will be held on **November 18, 2013, at 10:30 a.m.**, at the Department of Community Health (2 Peachtree Street, N.W., Atlanta, Georgia 30303) in the 5th Floor Board Room. Individuals who are disabled and need assistance to participate during this meeting should call (404) 656-4479. Citizens wishing to comment in writing on any of the proposed changes should do so on or before **November 25, 2013**, to the Board of Community Health, Post Office Box 1966, Atlanta, Georgia 30303.

Comments submitted will be available for review by the public at the Department of Community Health, Monday – Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., in Room 4074, 2 Peachtree Street, N.W., Atlanta, Georgia 30303. Comments from written and public testimony will be provided to the Board of Community Health prior to the **December 12, 2013** Board meeting. The Board will vote on the proposed changes at the Board meeting to be held at 10:30 a.m. at the Department of Community Health (2 Peachtree Street, N.W., Atlanta, Georgia 30303) in the 5th Floor Board Room.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THIS 14th DAY OF NOVEMBER, 2013

Clyde L. Reese III, Esq., Commissioner