

State of Mississippi

**METHODS AND STANDARDS FOR ESTABLISHING PAYMENT RATES-OTHER
TYPES OF CARE**

**Supplemental Payments for Physician and Professional Services Practitioners
at Qualifying Hospitals**

Effective for dates of payment on or after January 1, 2021, the Division of Medicaid will make supplemental payments for physicians and other professional services practitioners who are employed by or contracted with a qualifying hospital for services rendered to Medicaid beneficiaries. These supplemental payments will be equal to the difference between the average commercial payment rate and the amount otherwise paid pursuant to the fee schedule for physicians' services under Attachment 4.19-B.

1. Qualifying Criteria

Physicians and other eligible professional service practitioners as specified in 2. below who are employed by a qualifying hospital or who assigned Mississippi Medicaid payments to a qualifying hospital. The term "qualifying hospital" means a Mississippi state-owned academic health science center with a Level 1 trauma center, Level 4 neonatal intensive care nursery, an organ transplant program, and more than a four hundred (400) physician multispecialty practice group. To qualify for the supplemental payment, the physician or professional service practitioner must be:

- a. Licensed by the State of Mississippi, and
- b. Enrolled as a Mississippi Medicaid provider.

2. Qualifying Provider Types

For purposes of qualifying for supplemental payments under this section, services provided by the following professional practitioners will be included:

- a. Physicians,
- b. Physician Assistants,
- c. Nurse Practitioners,
- d. Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists,
- e. Certified Nurse Midwives,
- f. Clinical Social Workers,
- g. Clinical Psychologists,
- h. Dentists, and
- i. Optometrists.

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3. Payment Methodology

The supplemental payment will be determined in a manner to bring payments for these services up to the average commercial rate level. The average commercial rate level is defined as the rates paid by commercial payers for the same service. Under this methodology the terms physician and physician services include services provided by all qualifying provider types as set forth in 2. above.

The specific methodology to be used in establishing the supplemental payment for physician services is as follows:

- a. For services provided by physicians at a qualifying hospital, the Division of Medicaid will collect from the hospital its current commercial physician fees by the current procedural terminology (CPT) code for the hospital's top five (5) commercial payers by volume.
- b. The Division of Medicaid will calculate the average commercial fee for each CPT code for each physician practice plan or physician that provides services at the qualifying hospital.
- c. The Division of Medicaid will extract from its paid claims history file for the preceding fiscal year all paid claims for those physicians who will qualify for a supplemental payment. The Division of Medicaid will align the average commercial fee for each CPT code as determined in 3.b. above to each Medicaid claim for that physician or physician practice plan and calculate the average commercial payments for the claims.
- d. The Division of Medicaid will also align the same paid Medicaid claims with the Medicare fees for each CPT code for the physician or physician practice plan and calculate the Medicare payment amounts for those claims. The Medicare fees will be the most currently available national non-facility fees.
- e. The Division of Medicaid will then calculate an overall Medicare to commercial conversion factor by dividing the total amount of the average commercial payments for the claims by the total Medicare payments for the claims. The commercial to Medicare ratio will be re-determined every three (3) years.

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- f. For each quarter the Division of Medicaid will extract paid Medicaid claims for each qualifying provider types for that quarter.
- g. The Division of Medicaid will then calculate the amount Medicare would have paid for those claims by aligning the claims with the Medicare fee schedule by CPT code. The Medicare fees will be the national non-facility fees that were effective at the time the Medicaid claims were paid.
- h. The total amount that Medicare would have paid for those claims is then multiplied by the Medicare to commercial conversion factor and the amount Medicaid actually paid for those claims is subtracted to establish the supplemental payment amount for the qualifying provider types for that quarter.

The supplemental payments will be made on a quarterly basis and the Medicare equivalent of the average commercial rate of 158.17% factor will be rebased/updated every three (3) years by the Division of Medicaid. Supplemental payments will be directly remitted to the qualifying hospital or the physician practice plan to which participating physicians have assigned the Mississippi Medicaid payment.

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Supplemental Payments for Physician and Professional Services Practitioners at Qualifying Hospitals

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- e. The Division of Medicaid will then calculate an overall Medicare to commercial conversion factor by dividing the total amount of the average commercial payments for the claims by the total Medicare payments for the claims. The commercial to Medicare ratio will be re-determined every three (3) years.

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- g. The Division of Medicaid will then calculate the amount Medicare would have paid for those claims by aligning the claims with the Medicare fee schedule by CPT code. The Medicare fees will be the national non-facility fees that were effective January 1, 2017 at the time the Medicaid claims were paid.
- h. The total amount that Medicare would have paid for those claims is then multiplied by the Medicare to commercial conversion factor and the amount Medicaid actually paid for those claims is subtracted to establish the supplemental payment amount for the qualifying provider types for that quarter.

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