



MISSISSIPPI DIVISION OF
MEDICAID

Public Comments

Mississippi Division of Medicaid

MS SPA 26-0001 Ventilator Dependent Care (VDC)

We appreciate the Mississippi Division of Medicaid's efforts to update the Ventilator Dependent Care (VDC) per diem rate, effective February 1, 2026, increasing the rate to \$378 from \$178.34. We respectfully submit the following comments for consideration:

- Since the inception of the VDC per diem rate it, has been indicated that the rate would be reviewed every 5 years. However, the \$178.34 has not been updated during that period. Accordingly, we request consideration that the new rate be applied retroactively to the most recent date on which a review and/or update should have occurred.
- Additionally, we request further information regarding the methodology used to calculate the new \$378 per diem rate. Based on our current understanding, there is only one Medicaid approved VDC unit operating in the state. This unit has a reported cost per day of \$689 per their most recently filed cost report (FYE September 30, 2024). At the proposed rate of \$378, reimbursement does not appear sufficient to cover the cost of care for these patients.

We appreciate your consideration of these comments and welcome any additional clarification regarding the rate methodology.

Thanks!



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