



Connecticut Medical Assistance Program

Policy Transmittal 2015-39

Roderick L. Bremby, Commissioner

Provider Bulletin 2015-77

September 2015

Effective Date: October 1, 2015

Contact: Dana Robinson-Rush @ 860-424-5615

TO: Hospice Providers

RE: Increase in Hospice Rates

Rates for hospice services will be increased effective October 1, 2015 consistent with Section 1902(a)(13)(B) of the Social Security Act. The new rates can be found on the Hospice fee schedule, available on the Connecticut Medical Assistance Program Web site, at www.ctdssmap.com.

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) plans to modify its pricing locations based on the revised Metropolitan Statistical Areas. As of October 1, 2015, the location currently designated "Rural" will be split into two locations: "Litchfield-Rural" and "Windham-Urban". The Department will make the appropriate changes to reconfigure these hospice regions according to the modification implemented by CMS. These reconfigurations will not be completed before the effective date; therefore, a mass adjustment of processed claims will later occur to ensure that providers are reimbursed correctly.

In the interim, the Department will pay for all towns in the current "Rural" area, also known as region 5, at the rate for "Litchfield-Rural" and will adjust claims for "Windham-Urban" when system changes have been made and the rates are loaded.

Paid claims for "Windham-Urban" where the detailed billed amount is greater than the new allowed amount will be retroactively adjusted in a future rate mass adjustment. Rate mass adjustments occur in the second financial cycle of each month in the **month following a rate update**. **Providers are encouraged** to bill their usual and customary charge when submitting Hospice claims to ensure the systematic reprocessing of their claims whenever a rate change occurs.

Accessing the Fee Schedules

All fee schedules can be accessed and downloaded by going to the Connecticut Medical Assistance Web site: www.ctdssmap.com. From this Web page, go to "Provider", then to "Provider Fee Schedule Download", click "I Accept", and then click on the CSV for "Hospice". To access the CSV file, press the control key while clicking the CSV link, then select "Open".

For questions about billing or if further assistance is needed to access the fee schedule on the Connecticut Medical Assistance Program Web site, please contact the HP Provider Assistance Center, Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. at 1-800-842-8440.

Posting Instructions: Policy transmittals can be downloaded from the Web site at www.ctdssmap.com

Distribution: This policy transmittal is being distributed by HP Enterprise Services to providers enrolled in the Connecticut Medical Assistance Program.

Responsible Unit: DSS, Division of Health Services, Medical Policy and Regulations, Dana Robinson-Rush, at (860) 424-5615

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