

## TO: Home Health Agencies/Access Agencies

# **RE:** Increased Reimbursement Rates for Select Home Health Services

Effective for dates of service retroactive to August 1, 2021 and forward, the reimbursement rates for all home health services, excluding complex pediatric (0-18 years) skilled nursing visits and COVID-19 vaccine administration, were increased by 3.5%.

This rate increase applies to all non-pediatric complex care home health services including administration medication services. assessments/evaluations, skilled nursing visits, nursing visits, home health aide physical therapy, occupational services, therapy, speech and language pathology services, and the rates for complex skilled nursing visits for adult HUSKY Health members (ages 19+ years old) effective retroactive to August 1, 2021.

Please refer to provider bulletins, <u>PB 21-54</u> Increased Rates for Nursing Services for Home Health Pediatric Complex/High Tech Level of Care and <u>PB 22-02</u> Updating the Reimbursement Rate for Nursing Services for Home Health Pediatric Complex/High Tech Level of Care for guidance on billing pediatric complex skilled nursing visits.

# **Billing Instructions:**

Paid claims where the detailed billed amount is equal to or greater than the new allowed amount will be systematically adjusted in a future rate mass adjustment. Gainwell Technologies will identify and reprocess these claims without any additional work on the part of providers. Providers are encouraged to bill their usual and customary charge when submitting claims to ensure the systematic

reprocessing of their claims whenever a rate change occurs.

# **Prior Authorization (PA) Process:**

No changes have been made to the PA process and home health agencies **must continue to request prior authorization from the medical administrative services organization (ASO), Community Health Network of Connecticut, Inc. (CHNCT), or the behavioral health ASO, Beacon Health Options (CT BHP) for greater than 14 hours of home health aide services per week.** 

# Electronic Visit Verification (EVV) and Billing Instructions:

Home Health agencies who submit Electronic Visit Verification (EVV) mandated services to Gainwell Technologies for claim adjudication via the Santrax system must update their Master Rates to the usual and customary rates for dates of service beginning August 1, 2021 in their Sandata database prior to billing claims for dates of service August 1, 2021 and forward via the Sandata system.

Home Health agencies are encouraged to refer to the "Billing Rates" document by clicking on "Electronic Visit Verification" then "New Provider Information" then "Welcome Kit" then "Billing Rates" for assistance in updating their usual and customary rates in their Santrax system. Please click the link below to access the "Billing Rates" document from the www.ctdssmap.com Web site home page or use the link provided below.

# EVV Welcome Kit

Providers who submitted claims at the previously allowable rate via EVV must first fully recoup the claim using the <u>www.ctdssmap.com</u> secure Web portal or via an 837 electronic transaction. Claims must then be rolled back in EVV and resubmitted to obtain the new rate.

Providers who have submitted claims at the previously allowed rate outside of EVV must adjust their claims via the Web portal or electronic 837 transaction to obtain the new rate.

# Accessing the Fee Schedule:

The updated fee schedule can be accessed and downloaded by going to the Connecticut Medical Assistance Program (CMAP) Web site: <u>www.ctdssmap.com</u>. From this Web page, go to "Provider", then to "Provider Fee Schedule Download", scroll to the bottom of the page and click on "I Accept", then select the applicable fee schedule. To access the PDF file, click on the PDF icon for the Home Health fee schedule.

**<u>Posting Instructions</u>:** Policy transmittals can be downloaded from the Web site at <u>www.ctdssmap.com</u>.

**<u>Distribution</u>**: This policy transmittal is being distributed to providers of the CMAP by Gainwell Technologies.

**Responsible Unit:** DSS, Division of Health Services, Medical Policy; Dana Robinson-Rush, Health Program Assistant, email Dana.Robinson-Rush@ct.gov.

Electronic Visit Verification questions: email <u>ctevv@gainwelltechnologies.com</u>.

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