



ISSUE DATE December 20, 2014	EFFECTIVE DATE January 1, 2015	NUMBER 31-14-40
SUBJECT Medical Assistance Fees for Primary Care Services		BY  Vincent D. Gordon, Deputy Secretary Office of Medical Assistance Programs

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this bulletin is to notify physicians that the Department of Human Services (Department) will pay the current Medical Assistance (MA) Program Fee Schedule rates for primary care services, effective with dates of service on and after January 1, 2015.

SCOPE:

This bulletin applies to MA enrolled physicians who qualified to receive increased fees for specified primary care services rendered to MA beneficiaries.

BACKGROUND:

Section 1202 of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (Pub. L. No. 111-148), as amended by the Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act of 2010 (Pub. L. No. 111-152) (collectively ACA), required state Medicaid programs to pay qualifying physicians increased fees for specified primary care services that were no less than the Medicare rates in effect in calendar years (CYs) 2013 and 2014, or if greater, the rates that were applicable in those CYs using the CY 2009 Medicare physician fee schedule conversion factor. The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) provided for an enhanced Federal Medical Assistance Percentage (FMAP) of 100% of the rate in excess of the MA Program rate for CYs 2013 and 2014.

Qualifying physicians who rendered primary care services to Medicaid beneficiaries in the MA Program's fee-for-service and managed care delivery systems received the increased fees in CYs 2013 and 2014.

COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS BULLETIN SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO:

The appropriate toll free number for your provider type

Visit the Office of Medical Assistance Programs Web site at
<http://www.dhs.state.pa.us/provider/healthcaremedicalassistance/index.htm>

DISCUSSION:

The ACA Section 1202 mandate expires December 31, 2014, and effective January 1, 2015, CMS will no longer provide an enhanced FMAP for the specified primary care services. Accordingly, and as set forth in the notices published by the Department in the *Pennsylvania Bulletin* on January 5, 2013 at 43 Pa.B. 105 and March 29, 2014 at 44 Pa.B. 1949, the Department will revert to paying all MA enrolled physicians the current MA Program Fee Schedule rates for primary care services.

PROCEDURE:

Effective with dates of service on and after January 1, 2015, the Department will pay physicians the current MA Program Fee Schedule rates for the specified Evaluation and Management and vaccine administration procedure codes for primary care services.

Physicians may view the MA Program Fee Schedule by accessing the following website link:

<http://www.dpw.state.pa.us/publications/forproviders/schedules/mafeeschedules/outpatientfeeschedule/index.htm>.

Physicians who render services to MA beneficiaries in the MA managed care delivery system should direct payment questions to the appropriate MA managed care organization.