

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to 42 C.F.R. § 447.205, the Georgia Department of Community Health is required to give public notice of any significant proposed change in its methods and standards for setting payment rates for services.

HOSPITAL SERVICES

Effective for settlement amounts calculated for cost reports with dates of Notice of Program Reimbursement (“NPR”) on and after July 1, 2005, the Department is proposing to modify its determination of allowable and reimbursable costs by capping the ratio of costs to charges for each ancillary cost center at 100 per cent. The maximum cost that will be allowable for each ancillary cost center is the amount of allowable charges for claims paid for services provided during a cost reporting period. This change is estimated to reduce annual total expenditures by approximately \$7,500,000 (\$2,896,500 in state funds). The purpose of this change is to more accurately match payments to the level of services being provided.

This public notice is available for review at each county Department of Family and Children Services office. Citizens wishing to comment in writing on the proposed changes should do so before June 9, 2005, to the Board of Community Health, P. O. Box 38406, Atlanta, Georgia 30334.

Comments so submitted will be available for review by the public at the Department of Community Health, Monday – Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., in Room 4074, 2 Peachtree Street, NW, Atlanta, Georgia 30303.

An opportunity for public comment will be held on June 9, 2005, at 12:00 p.m. in conjunction with the June meeting of the Board of Community Health. Individuals who are disabled and in need of assistance to participate during the meeting should call (404) 656-4479. The Board will vote on the proposed change after comments have been received. The June Board meeting will be held in the Floyd Room of the Twin Towers Building, 20th Floor, West Tower, 200 Piedmont Avenue, Atlanta, Georgia.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THIS 12th DAY OF MAY, 2005.

Tim Burgess, Commissioner