

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.

UPPER PAYMENT LIMIT PAYMENTS

For physician services provided in a hospital or hospital-based clinic on and after October 1, 2005, faculty practices affiliated with public teaching hospitals will be eligible for rate payment adjustments. The non-federal share of any payments will be provided solely by intergovernmental transfers from governmental entities with which affiliated public hospitals are associated; from State appropriations made available by the Georgia Board for Physician Workforce; or from State appropriations specifically designated as a source of matching funds for physician UPL payments.

The rate payment adjustments will be subject to federal upper payment limits. Aggregate rate adjustment payments available without exceeding upper payment limits will be determined by measuring the difference between:

- Fee-for-service amounts paid for services provided to Medicaid patients and
- Estimated payment amounts for such services if payments were based on rates of commercial payers.

The department's preliminary estimates assume annual expenditures will increase by \$22.4 million (\$8.9 million in state matching funds). These supplemental payments will be made to provide additional financial support for medical education.

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 October 13, 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 October 13, 2005, at 12:00 p.m. in conjunction with the October 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 October 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 8th DAY OF September, 2005.

Tim Burgess, Commissioner

FY 2006
Physician Upper Payment Limit Program
List of Eligible Practices*

<u>Medical School</u>	<u>Faculty Physician Practice</u>	<u>Affiliated Public Teaching Hospital</u>
1 Mercer School of Medicine	Floyd Healthcare Management	Floyd Medical Center
2 Mercer School of Medicine	Memorial Health University Physicians	Memorial Health University Medical Center
3 Mercer School of Medicine	Blackshear Family Practice	Satilla Regional Medical Center
4 Mercer School of Medicine	The Family Practice Center	The Medical Center of Columbus
5 Mercer School of Medicine	Phoebe Family Care Center	Phoebe Putney Memorial Hospital
6 Mercer School of Medicine	TBD	Medical Center of Central Georgia
7 Medical College of Georgia	Physician Practice Group	Medical College of Georgia Hospitals and Clinics
8 Emory School of Medicine	Emory Clinic	Grady Memorial Hospital
9 Morehouse School of Medicine	Morehouse Medical Associates	Grady Memorial Hospital