

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.

INPATIENT HOSPITAL PROSPECTIVE PAYMENT SYSTEM

Pending CMS approval and effective for services provided on or after July 1, 2013, the Department is proposing to rebase to the current Diagnosis-Related Group (DRG) Classification System and an update of cost data to a more recent fiscal year with revisions as appropriate to peer group rates, DRG specific weights, cost to charge ratios and add-on payments.

Since January 1, 2008, the Department has reimbursed inpatient hospital Medicaid claims using a DRG per case rate based on the TRICARE Grouper version 24.0. These are DRGs that were in effect from October 1, 2006 through September 30, 2007 for the health care program operated by the U.S. Department of Defense Military Health System. The cost data used to develop current Georgia Medicaid inpatient hospital rates was state fiscal year 2004 and 2005 Medicaid and PeachCare paid claims data and hospital cost report data.

The Department is currently in the process of reviewing options for the DRG rebase and cost data update and will share proposals and seek input from hospitals through the forum of the Hospital Advisory Committee meetings over the next several months. The Department will also consider input from the opportunity for public comment on this notice as scheduled below.

This public notice is available for review at each county Department of Family and Children Services office. An opportunity for public comment will be held on **October 26, 2012**, at **11 a.m.**, at the Department of Community Health (2 Peachtree Street, N.W., Atlanta, Georgia 30303) in the 5th Floor Board Room. Individuals who are disabled and need assistance to participate during this meeting should call (404) 656-4479. Citizens wishing to comment in writing on any of the proposed changes should do so on or before **October 26, 2012**, to the Board of Community Health, Post Office Box 1966, Atlanta, Georgia 30303.

Comments 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, N.W., Atlanta, Georgia 30303. Comments from written and public testimony will be provided to the Board of Community Health prior to the **November 8, 2012** Board meeting. The Board will vote on the proposed changes at the Board meeting to be held at 10:30 a.m. at the Department of Community Health (2 Peachtree Street, N.W., Atlanta, Georgia 30303) in the 5th Floor Board Room.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THIS 11th DAY OF OCTOBER, 2012

David A. Cook, Commissioner