

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

Notice of Proposed Medicaid State Plan Amendment

SPA 19-P: Chemical Maintenance Clinics – Reimbursement Update for Border Providers

The State of Connecticut Department of Social Services (DSS) proposes to submit the following amendment to the Medicaid State Plan to the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS).

Changes to Medicaid State Plan

Effective on or after April 1, 2019, Medicaid State Plan Amendment (SPA) 19-P will amend Attachment 4.19-B of the Medicaid State Plan to add clarifying language that border providers who are licensed chemical maintenance clinics in an area bordering Connecticut are eligible for payment on the same conditions as newly established in-state chemical maintenance clinics. Specifically, border providers who are licensed chemical maintenance clinics that meet all applicable requirements would receive the weekly rate for seven daily doses of \$88.52, which is the same rate that is paid to any newly established in-state chemical maintenance clinic.

Fiscal Information

Based on available information, DSS estimates that this SPA will increase annual aggregate expenditures by approximately \$26,000 in State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2019 and \$175,000 in SFY 2020.

Obtaining SPA Language and Submitting Comments

The proposed SPA is posted on the DSS website at this link: <http://portal.ct.gov/dss>. Scroll down to the bottom of the webpage and click on “Publications” and then click on “Updates.” Then click on “Medicaid State Plan Amendments”. The proposed SPA may also be obtained at any DSS field office, at the Town of Vernon Social Services Department, or upon request from DSS (see below).

To request a copy of the SPA from DSS or to send comments about the SPA, please email: Public.Comment.DSS@ct.gov or write to: Department of Social Services, Medical Policy Unit, 55 Farmington Avenue, 9th Floor, Hartford, CT 06105 (Phone: 860-424-5067). Please reference “SPA 19-P: Chemical Maintenance Clinics – Reimbursement Update for Border Providers”.

Anyone may send DSS written comments about this SPA. Written comments must be received by DSS at the above contact information no later than April 10, 2019.

STATE PLAN UNDER TITLE XIX OF THE SOCIAL SECURITY ACT

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(g) Chemical Maintenance Clinics.

1. Chemical maintenance services shall be reimbursed based on a provider-specific weekly rate listed below. Providers shall be: (1) certified and licensed by SAMHSA (Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration) and (2) licensed by the Connecticut Department of Public Health (or, for border providers, licensed by the equivalent health licensing agency in the state where the clinic is located) and (3) shall comply with all applicable federal and state requirements, including, but not limited to, requirements specific to the provision of chemical maintenance services.
2. New chemical maintenance providers licensed by the Department of Public Health shall receive the weighted statewide rate as listed below. Any existing provider that opens an additional licensed location shall receive the provider's current rate as listed below. Chemical maintenance clinic border providers shall receive the weighted Connecticut statewide rate as listed below.
3. When two or more current chemical maintenance providers merge to form a different legal entity, the data used to calculate the provider specific weekly rate of the original entities are totaled and used as the basis for determining a rate for the new entity. The same methodology will be used when one chemical maintenance provider purchases another chemical maintenance provider.
4. In order to qualify for chemical maintenance reimbursement, providers shall ensure all participants receive appropriate intake and/or annual physical exams. This requirement is a prerequisite to being able to bill for chemical maintenance services. Reimbursement for physical exams is a component of the weekly rate and shall not be reimbursed separately.
5. To receive payment of chemical maintenance services (including methadone dispensing) at the weekly rate, at least one unit of the following categories of service per day for seven days must have been provided: in-person medication administration, take-home medication doses or any in-person clinical service provided at the clinic that meets the billing code clinical and minimum time definitions for individual, group or family psychotherapy or any combination thereof. A provider may bill multiple weekly rates during an in-person dispensing visit in order to account for the dispensed take-home doses up to the limitations in federal requirements for take-home doses, provided that the total number of doses billed is no greater than the total number of days allocated to each weekly rate. For any week for which such a service is provided on fewer than seven days, the Department shall prorate the rate to pay only for the number of days in the week during which such a service was provided.

STATE PLAN UNDER TITLE XIX OF THE SOCIAL SECURITY ACT
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6. Chemical maintenance clinic providers shall be reimbursed based on the following provider-specific reimbursement schedule (and in accordance with the provisions detailed above):

CHEMICAL MAINTENANCE PROVIDER NAME	WEEKLY RATE FOR 7 DOSES
APT FOUNDATION INC	\$99.49
CHEMICAL ABUSE SERVICES AGENCY	\$86.18
COMMUNITY HEALTH RESOURCES, INC A/K/A COMMUNITY PREVENTION AND ADDICTION SVCS	\$97.13
COMMUNITY SUBSTANCE ABUSE CENTERS INC	\$96.27
CONNECTICUT COUNSELING CENTERS INC	\$91.10
HARTFORD DISPENSARY	\$75.80
LIBERATION PROGRAMS INC	\$85.96
NEW ERA REHABILITATION CENTER	\$87.02
REGIONAL NETWORK OF PROGRAMS	\$95.99
NEW CHEMICAL MAINTENANCE CLINICS (Newly licensed on or after February 1, 2018) and BORDER PROVIDERS	\$88.52

TN # 19-P
Supersedes
TN # 18-0016

Approval Date _____

Effective Date 04/01/2019