FEDERAL MEDICAID NOTICE AND PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE STATE OF OHIO DEPARTMENT OF JOB AND FAMILY SERVICES

Date: February 15, 2008

Time: 10:00 AM Location: Room 2925

30 East Broad Street, 29th Floor, Columbus, Ohio

PURSUANT TO SECTION 5111.02 AND CHAPTER 119. OF THE OHIO REVISED CODE, AND 42 CFR 447.205 AND SECTION 1902(a)(13)(A) OF THE SOCIAL SECURITY ACT, THE DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF JOB AND FAMILY SERVICES GIVES NOTICE OF THE DEPARTMENT'S INTENT TO AMEND RULE 5101:3-2-07.4 AND PUBLIC HEARING THEREON.

Background

On December 7, 2007 the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services issued notice of its intent to amend Rule 5101:3-2-07.4 entitled "Basic methodology for determining prospective payment rates" on an emergency basis and announced a public input process prior to the effective date of December 31, 2007. As part of the public input process a hearing was held on December 20, 2007 at which the Department accepted testimony from interested parties. For the reasons stated in that notice, the rule was made effective on an emergency basis, by Executive Order, on December 31, 2007, providing for a 0.00 percent inflation update through March 30, 2008. The rates that will result from this amendment are available upon request by calling the Hospital Unit of the Bureau of Health Plan Policy at 614-466-6420.

Permanent Rule Filing

Rule 5101:3-2-07.4 entitled "Basic methodology for determining prospective payment rates" describes the methodology for determining prospective payment rates for inpatient hospital services and sets the annual inflationary update. This rule is being proposed for amendment to not provide for inpatient inflationary updates through December 31, 2009.

These proposed changes essentially hold inpatient hospital base rates and medical education rates at the calendar year (CY) 2007 levels for CY 2008 and CY 2009. The Department continues to focus its efforts on remaining a value purchaser of health care services for needy Ohioans. The proposed changes are intended to contain the rate of increase in inpatient hospital reimbursement rates in light of the current rates paid and the resources available to the State, and the department does not believe that the proposed changes would adversely impact access to quality care for Medicaid consumers. The department estimates that the proposed changes would result in decreased spending on inpatient hospital services, during the period April 1, 2008 through March 31, 2009, of \$28.25 million.

A copy of the proposed rule is available, without charge, to any person affected by the rule at the address listed below and at the county departments of job and family services. The rule is also available on the internet at http://www.registerofohio.state.oh.us/. A public hearing on the proposed rule will be held at the date, time, and location listed at the top of this notice. Either written or oral testimony will be taken at the public hearing. Additionally, written comments submitted or postmarked no later than the date of the public hearing will be treated as testimony.

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Requests for a copy of the proposed rule or comments on the rule should be submitted by mail to the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services, Office of Legal Services, 30 East Broad Street, 31st Floor, Columbus, Ohio 43215-3414, by fax at (614) 752-8298, or by e- mail at rules@odjfs.state.oh.us. Comments received may be reviewed at this address.