

**PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE
OHIO DEPARTMENT OF MEDICAID**

DATE: November 17, 2023

TIME: 11:00 a.m.

Teleconference Dial-in Phone Number: 1-614-721-2972

Teleconference Pin: 584060440#

Link to Microsoft Teams Meeting for Hearing: [Click here to join the meeting](#)

In-Person Location: Room A501, Lazarus Building
50 W Town St., Columbus, Ohio 43215

Pursuant to Chapter 119. and section 5164.02 of the Revised Code, the Director of the Ohio Department of Medicaid (ODM) gives notice of ODM's intent to consider the amendment of the rule identified below and of a public hearing thereon.

Rule 5160-2-75, entitled “**Outpatient hospital reimbursement**,” sets forth the Medicaid outpatient hospital reimbursement methodology for hospitals subject to the Enhanced Ambulatory Patient Grouping (EAPG) prospective payment system. The rule is being amended to implement the provisions of Am. Sub. H.B. No. 33 of the 135th General Assembly and to continue the reform and modernization of outpatient hospital reimbursement. The department has also recalibrated relative weights for outpatient hospital services to facilitate the move from EAPG version 3.14 to version 3.17. The formula used to calculate outpatient payments will not change. The amendments to the rule include:

- Increased outpatient cost coverage for outpatient services at all in-state hospitals, including critical access hospitals and rural hospitals.
- Adopted new hospital peer group base rates except as modified by the results of the stop loss/stop gain provisions.
- Increased observation payments for acute medical-related services and created payments and access for behavioral health (BH) observation services. Hospitals will need to use modifier HE to identify BH and/or substance use disorder (SUD) observation services.
- Applied a zero percent stop loss and a ten percent stop gain provision in the adoption of outpatient hospital base rates designed to prevent large swings in an individual hospital's reimbursement.
- Transitioned freestanding psychiatric facilities to EAPG reimbursement methodology.

This rule is also being proposed for amendment as part of the five-year rule review process and part of these changes include the removal of laboratory and radiology service codes, revisions to coverage for acupuncture services, and updates to rule references and regulatory restrictions.

ODM will hold the public hearing for this rule package via teleconference and in-person. ODM will not require masks for individuals attending in person. However, visitors are welcome to wear masks if that is their preference. The date and time for the public hearing are listed at the top of this Notice as well as the phone number, PIN (access code), and link for teleconference attendance, and location for in-person attendance.

All interested parties are invited to participate in the public hearing. Both oral and written testimony will be accepted for this hearing and will be given the same consideration. Persons who want to give oral testimony are asked to send a message by e-mail to Rules@medicaid.ohio.gov no later than one hour before the hearing to be added to the witness list. Those attending in person can be added to the witness list at the hearing. There will be a final call at the end of the hearing for persons who wish to offer oral testimony but are not yet on the witness list.

Written comments submitted in-person, by e-mail, postal mail, or fax that are received or postmarked no later than the day of the hearing will be accepted as testimony and will become part of the hearing record. All testimony will become public record; therefore, ODM asks that protected health information (PHI) be excluded unless the information belongs to the person submitting the testimony or to a person for which the submitter is a legal guardian. Written testimony sent by e-mail is highly recommended. All persons who submit testimony by e-mail will be sent a confirmation of receipt.

A copy of the proposed rule is available, without charge, to any person at the address listed below. The rule is also available on the internet at <http://www.registerofohio.state.oh.us/>. Requests for a copy of the proposed rule or comments on the rule should be submitted by mail to the Ohio Department of Medicaid, Office of Legal Counsel, 50 W. Town Street, Suite 400, Columbus, Ohio 43215-3414, by fax at (614) 995-1301, or by e-mail at Rules@Medicaid.Ohio.gov.

ODM is committed to providing access and inclusion and reasonable accommodation in its services, activities, programs, and employment opportunities in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), Title VI of the Civil Rights Act, and other applicable laws. To request an interpreter, written information in a language other than English or in other formats (large print, audio, accessible electronic formats, other formats), or a reasonable accommodation due to a disability, please contact ODM's Civil Rights/ADA Coordinator at 614-995-9981/TTY 711, Fax 1-614-644-1434, or Email: ODM_EEO_EmployeeRelations@medicaid.ohio.gov. Requests should be made at least three (3) business days prior to the scheduled hearing. If you believe ODM has failed to provide these services or discriminated in another way, you can file a grievance with ODM's Civil Rights Coordinator and file a civil rights complaint with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office for Civil Rights. Further information on these

processes and ODM's compliance with civil rights and other applicable laws can be found here: [Notice of Nondiscrimination](#).