

**LEGAL NOTICE  
STATE OF OHIO  
OHIO DEPARTMENT OF MEDICAID**

Pursuant to section 1902(a)(13)(A) of the Social Security Act and 42 CFR 447.205, the director of the Ohio Department of Medicaid (department) gives notice of the department's intent to modify provisions relating to positive incentive payments to, and negative incentive payments collected from, Principal Accountable Providers (PAPs) participating in the Medicaid program.

The Episode Based Payment (EBP) model was established to create an Ohio specific value-based purchasing model to reward high-quality care and outcomes. The Episodes program establishes PAPs for a defined episode of care (EOC) and encourages clinical effectiveness, supports referral to providers who deliver high-quality care, and applies financial incentives to evaluate the cost and quality of care delivered for each episode. PAPs receive a positive incentive payment if their average cost for a certain episode falls below a predetermined threshold and they meet specific quality measures. PAPs whose cost is above a predetermined threshold are held responsible by being assessed a negative incentive. Due to COVID-19 and the changes in patient behavior related to seeking medical care, ODM intends to suspend assessing providers' performance and payments under the EBP model for calendar years 2020 and 2021. The change will result in no PAPs being assessed either a positive or negative incentive payment for calendar years 2020 and 2021.

Implementation of this change in the methods and standards for setting payment rates is expected to have no impact on annual aggregate expenditures for any of the following state plan benefit categories or services:

- Inpatient Hospital Services
- Outpatient Hospital Services
- Physicians' Services
- Podiatrists' Services
- Chiropractors' Services
- Physician Assistants' Services
- Advanced Practice Nurses Services
- Free Standing Ambulatory Health Care Clinics
- Outpatient Health Facilities
- Ambulatory Surgery Centers
- Dental Services
- Nurse Midwife Services
- Certified Pediatric and Family Nurse Practitioner Services
- Emergency Hospital Services

Any person may examine and obtain a copy of the changes, without charge, at the following locations\*: Ohio Department of Medicaid, 50 West Town Street, Suite 400, Columbus, Ohio 43215; any county department of job and family services; or on the internet at <http://www.registerofohio.state.oh.us> by searching Ohio Administrative Code rule 5160-1-70.

Written comments regarding these changes may be submitted by mail to the Ohio Department of Medicaid, attn.: Emily VanBuren, Episodes of Care Administrator, 50 West Town Street, Suite 400, Columbus, Ohio 43215-3414 and may be reviewed at the same location. Comments may also be provided by e-mail to: [Emily.VanBuren@medicaid.ohio.gov](mailto:Emily.VanBuren@medicaid.ohio.gov). Comments must be submitted no later than August 7, 2020.

- \* If you would like to review the changes or written comments in person at the department or county, contact the department or county first to schedule an appointment, as office hours may be limited or revised from the usual schedule due to COVID-19.