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 reimbursement for inpatient hospitals participating in the Medicaid program.

The department is ending the Potentially Preventable Readmissions (PPR) program, which the department had implemented to reduce payment for preventable readmissions. The department used 3M Health Information Systems' PPR software to determine whether a readmission within 30 days of a prior discharge from any hospital was clinically-related and clinically preventable to the initial admission. If a readmission was deemed clinically-related and clinically-preventable within the 30-day window, then a clinically-related readmission chain was established. A hospital that has excess readmissions, which is defined as an actual-to-expected readmission ratio of greater than one, was subject to a reduction of their hospital-specific base rate equal to one percent. The department has not been assessing the penalty since 2019 when it was determined that the software used did not achieve the department's original intended goals. The department has decided to permanently end the program.

Implementation of these changes will not increase annual aggregate Medicaid expenditures.

Any person may examine and obtain a copy of the policy for the program that is ending, without charge, at the following locations:

Ohio Department of Medicaid, 50 West Town Street, Suite 400, Columbus, Ohio 43215; or Any county department of job and family services; or On the internet at https://codes.ohio.gov by searching Ohio Administrative Code rule 5160-2-14.

Written comments regarding these changes may be submitted by mail to the Ohio Department of Medicaid, Attn.: Bureau of Health Plan Policy, 50 West Town Street, Suite 400, Columbus, Ohio 43215-3414 and may be reviewed at the same location. Comments may also be provided by email to the following address: hospital_policy@medicaid.ohio.gov. Comments must be submitted no later than December 7, 2024.

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, Section 1557 of the Affordable Care Act, and other applicable laws. To request an interpreter, written information in a language other than English or in other formats (braille, 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. 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 or Section 1557 Coordinator and/or 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.