LEGAL NOTICE STATE OF OHIO OHIO DEPARTMENT OF MEDICAID

Pursuant to section 1902(a)(13)(A) of the Social Security Act, the director of the Ohio Department of Medicaid (department) gives final notice of the department's modification of provisions relating to the reimbursement of inpatient hospitals participating in the Medicaid program.

An initial notice was issued in November 2024 to inform the public of proposed changes in reimbursement to inpatient hospitals for Medicaid services. This final notice reflects the result of the public and legislative processes.

The department obsoleted the Potentially Preventable Readmissions (PPR) program, which reduced payment for preventable readmissions. The department had 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. When 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 had excess readmissions, which was 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 had not assessed the penalty since 2019 and decided to permanently end the program.

If, as an interested party, you need further information regarding this policy change, you may contact the Hospital Section of the Bureau of Policy and Health Plan Services at: <u>hospital_policy@medicaid.ohio.gov</u>.

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