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MEMORANDUM

TO: RHCF and Community Services Members

FROM: Patrick Cucinelli, Senior Financial Policy Analyst

DATE: January 11, 2010

SUBJECT: Medicare Part B Rates

ROUTE TO: Administrator, CFO, Billing Director, Medical Director, Rehab Director

ABSTRACT: NYAHS advises members on Part B rates for Jan/Feb 2010.

Introduction

The president has signed legislation that provides a temporary override to the 21.2 percent reduction to 2010 Medicare Physician Fee Schedule (MPFS), including nursing home and home health agency therapy and ancillary Part B services. The override is effective from 1/1/2010 to 2/28/2010.

CMS has instructed its contractors to hold claims for services paid under Part B for up to the first 10 business days of January (January 1 through January 15) for 2010 dates of service. This should have minimal impact on provider cash flow because, by law, clean electronic claims are not paid any sooner than 14 calendar days (29 days for paper claims) after the date of receipt. Meanwhile, all claims for services delivered on or before December 31, 2009, will be processed and paid under normal procedures.

The holding of claims allows Medicare contractors time to receive the updated payment files (i.e., the frozen 2009 rates) and perform necessary testing before paying claims at the frozen rates. CMS has instructed contractors to begin processing claims at the frozen rates **no later than** January 19, 2010. NYAHS is closely monitoring the situation and will advise members of any developments as additional steps are in process for a potential permanent override to the cuts.

January and February Rate Adjustments

Despite the freeze, for the first two months of 2010 CMS has made minor adjustments to the relative value units of some rates and the conversion factor (CF). For January and February, the CF increases from \$36.0666 to \$36.0846, and this adjustments impacts all rates. An average, the impact on individual rates should be relatively small.

NYAHSA has provided members with details on the provisions of the CY 2010 MPFS and other year-end reminders in the following memos:

- [Doc. ID # n00004190 General Summary of 2010 MPFS](#)
- [Doc. ID # n00003639 Additional MPFS Provisions](#)
- [Doc. ID # n00004218 Provisions for Telehealth](#)
- [Doc. ID # n00004143 PS&R Reports and Therapy Caps Exceptions Process](#)

Please refer to these memos for additional information.

- ***Additional Resources:***

Members can also refer to the AAHSA Part B Rate Calculation Tool available on their Web site at: http://www.aahsa.org/PartB_RateTool_2010.aspx. CMS has an MPFS Web resource page available at: <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/PhysicianFeeSched/> and an MPFS Look-Up feature at: <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/pfslookup/>.

For member convenience, a copy of the adjusted rates for some of the most common procedures and physician evaluation and management (E&M) codes for the freeze period are attached (see Tables 1 and 2 respectively). This is not meant to be a comprehensive listing of all billable codes and there may be additional codes for which a provider may be reimbursed. NYAHSA cautions that there are often some errors in the first run of the fee screen amounts and that CMS will likely publish corrections in its quarterly updates. The attached lists of fee screen amounts are divided into five sections, representing different localities in New York State. The corresponding counties for each payment locality are listed below.

Payment Locality:	Counties:
Manhattan	New York
NYC Suburbs/Long Island	Bronx, Brooklyn, Kings, Nassau, Richmond, Rockland, Staten Island, Suffolk, Westchester
Poughkeepsie/NYC Suburbs	Columbia, Delaware, Dutchess, Greene, Orange, Putnam, Sullivan, Ulster

Queens	Queens
Rest of State	All Other Counties

Conclusion

Part B rates for the remaining 10 months of CY 2010 will depend upon final action by Congress. NYAHSa will issue a more comprehensive analysis of the Part B rates once Congress acts on this issue. Members are also reminded that the therapy caps exceptions process expired as of 12/31/2009 (see Doc. ID # n00004143 referenced above). NYAHSa and AAHSa continue to advocate on these critical matters. Members, who have not already done so, should refer to AAHSa's Legislative Action Center at: <http://capwiz.com/aahsa/home/>, and contact Congress permanent solutions to both the Part B rate reduction and therapy caps exceptions process.

Attachment

N:\NYAHSa\Policy\pcucinelli\Medicare Rates\January2010temporaryrates.doc

ATTACHMENT						
Table 1. CY 2010 January and February MPFS Rates		Page 1 of 2			NYAHS 01/10	
CPT/ HCPCS Codes	Description	Manhattan	NYC Suburbs/ Long Island	NYC Suburbs/ Poughkeepsie	Queens	Rest of State
64550	Apply neurostimulator	\$17.58	\$17.51	\$15.43	\$16.98	\$13.94
90901	Biofeedback, any method	\$40.83	\$40.63	\$35.80	\$39.40	\$32.34
92507	Speech/hearing therapy	\$78.30	\$77.82	\$67.42	\$75.24	\$59.89
92508	Speech/hearing therapy	\$38.45	\$38.21	\$33.13	\$36.95	\$29.45
92526	Oral function therapy	\$117.28	\$116.36	\$103.64	\$112.93	\$94.71
92597	Oral speech device eval	\$124.88	\$124.01	\$109.56	\$120.22	\$99.30
92605	Eval for nonspeech device rx	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
92606	Non-speech device service	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
92607	Ex for speech device rx, 1hr	\$204.99	\$204.08	\$170.06	\$196.23	\$144.82
92608	Ex for speech device rx addl	\$41.58	\$41.38	\$34.50	\$39.78	\$29.40
92609	Use of speech device service	\$111.16	\$110.64	\$92.22	\$106.39	\$78.56
92610	Evaluate swallowing function	\$134.12	\$133.01	\$117.43	\$128.88	\$106.41
92611	Motion fluoroscopy/swallow	\$144.55	\$143.36	\$126.28	\$138.86	\$114.16
92612	Endoscopy swallow tst (fees)	\$191.10	\$189.93	\$164.54	\$183.62	\$146.16
92614	Laryngoscopic sensory test	\$169.08	\$168.07	\$146.28	\$162.61	\$130.54
92616	Fees w/laryngeal sense test	\$229.19	\$227.89	\$199.02	\$220.62	\$178.20
95831	Limb muscle testing, manual	\$32.09	\$31.98	\$27.94	\$30.98	\$25.00
95832	Hand muscle testing, manual	\$30.49	\$30.48	\$26.66	\$29.56	\$23.85
95833	Body muscle testing, manual	\$41.36	\$41.06	\$36.54	\$39.85	\$33.35
95834	Body muscle testing, manual	\$50.46	\$50.16	\$44.70	\$48.71	\$40.84
95851	Range of motion measurements	\$20.09	\$20.00	\$17.42	\$19.36	\$15.55
95852	Range of motion measurements	\$16.30	\$16.25	\$14.04	\$15.71	\$12.42
95992	Canalith repositioning proc	\$47.58	\$47.44	\$43.01	\$46.23	\$39.89
96105	Assessment of aphasia	\$96.64	\$96.22	\$80.17	\$92.53	\$68.26
96110	Developmental test, lim	\$9.26	\$9.28	\$7.68	\$8.93	\$6.47
96111	Developmental test, extend	\$145.88	\$145.35	\$133.28	\$141.90	\$124.96
97001	Pt evaluation	\$81.25	\$80.78	\$73.08	\$78.64	\$67.71
97002	Pt re-evaluation	\$44.37	\$44.11	\$39.65	\$42.90	\$36.52
97003	Ot evaluation	\$88.18	\$87.74	\$78.81	\$85.34	\$72.52
97004	Ot re-evaluation	\$52.80	\$52.48	\$46.64	\$50.94	\$42.50
97010	Hot or cold packs therapy	\$5.95	\$5.98	\$5.21	\$5.80	\$4.64
97012	Mechanical traction therapy	\$16.99	\$16.90	\$15.27	\$16.46	\$14.13
97016	Vasopneumatic device therapy	\$18.98	\$18.90	\$16.60	\$18.32	\$14.94
97018	Paraffin bath therapy	\$10.16	\$10.16	\$8.71	\$9.83	\$7.63
97022	Whirlpool therapy	\$22.35	\$22.24	\$19.34	\$21.52	\$17.24
97024	Diathermy eg, microwave	\$6.88	\$6.91	\$5.99	\$6.70	\$5.30
97026	Infrared therapy	\$5.95	\$5.98	\$5.21	\$5.80	\$4.64
97028	Ultraviolet therapy	\$7.65	\$7.67	\$6.72	\$7.44	\$6.02
97032	Electrical stimulation	\$19.33	\$19.23	\$17.22	\$18.69	\$15.79
97033	Electric current therapy	\$30.96	\$30.77	\$26.91	\$29.79	\$24.13
97034	Contrast bath therapy	\$18.26	\$18.18	\$16.14	\$17.65	\$14.69
97035	Ultrasound therapy	\$13.58	\$13.53	\$12.26	\$13.18	\$11.36
97036	Hydrotherapy	\$32.56	\$32.44	\$28.33	\$31.43	\$25.34
97039	Physical therapy treatment	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
97110	Therapeutic exercises	\$33.10	\$32.86	\$29.59	\$31.95	\$27.31
97112	Neuromuscular reeducation	\$34.87	\$34.70	\$31.05	\$33.73	\$28.46
97113	Aquatic therapy/exercises	\$42.55	\$42.25	\$37.38	\$40.97	\$33.93
97116	Gait training therapy	\$29.31	\$29.10	\$26.20	\$28.30	\$24.18
97124	Massage therapy	\$26.92	\$26.74	\$23.98	\$25.99	\$22.05
97139	Physical medicine procedure	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
97140	Manual therapy	\$30.93	\$30.71	\$27.69	\$29.87	\$25.59
97150	Group therapeutic procedures	\$21.50	\$21.38	\$19.11	\$20.78	\$17.51
97530	Therapeutic activities	\$35.99	\$35.74	\$31.94	\$34.71	\$29.28
97532	Cognitive skills development	\$28.03	\$27.83	\$25.33	\$27.11	\$23.63
97533	Sensory integration	\$30.84	\$30.62	\$27.67	\$29.79	\$25.62
97535	Self care mngmt training	\$35.91	\$35.65	\$31.92	\$34.63	\$29.30

Table 1. CY 2010 January and February MPFS Rates		Page 2 of 2			NYAHS 01/10	
CPT/ HCPCS Codes	Description	Manhattan	NYC Suburbs/ Long Island	NYC Suburbs/ Poughkeepsie	Queens	Rest of State
V5299	Hearing Service	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
G0279	Excorp shock treatment, elbow epi (carrier covered/priced)	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
G0280	Excorp shock treatment, other than (carrier covered/priced)	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
G0281	Elec stim unattend for press	\$13.83	\$13.78	\$12.32	\$13.40	\$11.28
G0283	Elec stim other than wound	\$13.83	\$13.78	\$12.32	\$13.40	\$11.28
G0329	Electromagntic tx for ulcers	\$10.16	\$10.16	\$8.71	\$9.83	\$7.63

Table 2. Temporary MPFS E&M Rates			NYAHS 1/10		
E and M Codes	Manhattan	NYC Suburbs/ Long Island	NYC Suburbs/ Poughkeepsie	Queens	Rest of State
99304	\$95.65	\$95.49	\$87.07	\$93.19	\$81.14
99305	\$133.74	\$133.50	\$122.01	\$130.34	\$113.94
99306	\$170.62	\$170.16	\$155.96	\$166.15	\$146.11
99307	\$46.20	\$45.97	\$41.91	\$44.82	\$39.10
99308	\$71.18	\$70.87	\$64.52	\$69.09	\$60.11
99309	\$93.91	\$93.53	\$85.22	\$91.20	\$79.44
99310	\$138.37	\$137.77	\$125.87	\$134.39	\$117.65
99315	\$67.22	\$66.94	\$61.10	\$65.29	\$57.04
99316	\$87.78	\$87.45	\$79.89	\$85.32	\$74.65
99318	\$97.71	\$97.27	\$89.13	\$94.93	\$83.53