Follow-up to “2013 Outpatient Reimbursement Changes to Implement January 1, 2014”

Information posted November 22, 2013

This is a follow-up to the article titled “2013 Outpatient Reimbursement Changes to Implement January 1, 2014,” which was published on this website on October 14, 2013. Details are now available for the changes to reimbursement for outpatient hospitals and the resulting claims reprocessing for the Children with Special Health Care Needs (CSHCN) Services Program.

Reimbursement Rate Reductions

Retroactive to September 1, 2013, reimbursement rate reductions will affect the following:

- Non-emergent non-urgent services that are rendered by hospitals during an emergency room visit.
- All other outpatient hospital procedures

Non-Emergent Emergency Room Service Rate Cutback

Effective for dates of service on or after September 1, 2013, reimbursement for non-emergent and non-urgent services that are rendered by hospitals during an emergency room visit will be limited to 125% of an adult physician office visit fee for procedure code 99202.

The reimbursement reduction will not apply to services that were rendered to address the following:

- Problems of high-severity
- Problems that require urgent evaluation by a physician
- Problems that pose immediate and significant threats to physical or mental function
- Critical illness or injury

Rate Reduction for Other Outpatient Hospital Procedures

The rate reduction that is applied to all outpatient hospital procedure codes will increase to 28 percent from 20 percent, and outpatient hospitals will be reimbursed at 72 percent of the published rate.

Claims Reprocessing

TMHP will apply the rate changes to the claims processing system effective December 14, 2013. Claims with dates of service from September 1, 2013, through December 13, 2013, will be reprocessed, and overpayments may be deducted from future payments (i.e., recouped). All deductions will be reflected on Remittance and Status (R&S) Reports.

For more information, call the TMHP-CSHCN Services Program Contact Center at 1-800-568-2413.