April 16, 2020

State of Alabama
Press Release: Medicaid

Alabama Medicaid Temporarily Extends Inpatient Stays for Recipients in Response to the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Pandemic

PDF Version

TO: Hospitals, Physicians

In response to the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic, Alabama Medicaid will cover extended inpatient hospital stays for recipients in the inpatient hospital setting who are ready for discharge and are awaiting placement in the appropriate long-term care setting.

Alabama Medicaid expects the hospital to utilize its physician advisor and document the reason during the COVID-19 emergency in the medical record.

This ALERT will be effective until termination of the public health emergency, unless terminated or modified earlier by a subsequent ALERT or action by Alabama Medicaid.

During the COVID-19 emergency, it is important to file claims as quickly as possible to ensure payment from Medicaid is made to Medicaid providers close to the date of service. The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services has increased the federal matching percentage for the emergency time frame, but states can only receive the increased match on claims that are paid during the emergency.

Contacts:
Billing questions, please call the provider assistance center at (800) 688 7989.

Policy questions, please email solomon.williams@medicaid.alabama.gov or callie.johnson@medicaid.alabama.gov.

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