Hospital Non-comparable Ambulance Acute Rate Add-on

Effective date: 7/21/20

Pursuant to the authority vested in the Commissioner of Health by section three of Part LL of Chapter 56 of the Laws of 2020, paragraph (1) of subdivision (l) of Section 86-1.15 of Title 10 (Health) of the Official Compilation of Codes, Rules and Regulations of the State of New York is amended to be effective upon filing with the Secretary of State, to read as follows:

(1) Medicaid costs associated with ambulance services operated by a facility and reported as inpatient costs in the institutional cost report. Effective October 1, 2020, these costs shall exclude ground emergency transportation services costs that are being reimbursed pursuant to Chapter 56 of the Laws of 2020; and

REGULATORY IMPACT STATEMENT

Statutory Authority:

The statutory authority for this regulation is contained in Chapter 56 of the Laws of 2020 and authorizes the Commissioner to promulgate regulations, including emergency regulations, regarding a supplemental Medicaid reimbursement payment for ground emergency medical transportation services. This supplemental payment is in lieu of an ambulance non-comparable add-on in the hospital acute inpatient reimbursement rate. Rate regulations are set forth in Subpart 86-1 of Title 10 (Health) of the Official Compilation of Codes, Rules, and Regulations of the State of New York (NYCRR).

Legislative Objectives:

The legislative objective is to provide the ability to participate in the supplemental payment for ground emergency medical transportation services but eliminate any potential duplicate Medicaid reimbursement.

Needs and Benefits:

Based on the requirements of Chapter 56 of the Laws of 2020, eligible ground emergency transportation providers will be provided the ability to participate in a supplemental payment in lieu of receiving reimbursement through a hospital. Article 28 hospitals currently receive reimbursement through their acute hospital inpatient rate for ambulance services provided by the ground emergency medical transportation providers. For ground emergency transportation providers that meet the requirements of this chapter and receive the supplemental payment, the hospitals through which they were reimbursed will not be eligible to also receive the ambulance add-on in the acute hospital inpatient rate.

COSTS:

Costs to Private Regulated Parties:

There will be no additional costs to private regulated parties.

Costs to State Government:

There is no cost to State Government for this proposed regulation.

Costs of Local Government:

There is no cost to Local Government for this proposed regulation.

Costs to the Department of Health:

There will be no additional costs to the Department of Health as a result of this proposed regulation.

Local Government Mandates:

The proposed regulation does not impose any new programs, services, duties or responsibilities upon any county, city, town, village, school district, fire district or other special district.

Paperwork:

No additional paperwork is required of providers.

Duplication:

This regulation does not duplicate any existing federal, state or local government regulation.

Alternatives:

There is no alternative as an alternative would provide a duplicate payment to hospitals.

Federal Standards:

The proposed regulation does not exceed any minimum standards of the federal government for the same or similar subject areas.

Compliance Schedule:

The Department of Health will be implementing the ground emergency transportation services supplemental program effective on or after October 1, 2020 which requires the potential duplicate payment be removed as of the same date.

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STATEMENT IN LIEU OF

REGULATORY FLEXIBILITY ANALYSIS

No regulatory flexibility analysis is required pursuant to section 202(b)(3)(a) of the State Administrative Procedure Act. The proposed regulations do not impose an adverse economic impact on small businesses or local governments, and they do not impose reporting, record keeping or other compliance requirements on small businesses or local governments.

STATEMENT IN LIEU OF

RURAL AREA FLEXIBILITY ANALYSIS

No rural flexibility analysis is required pursuant to section 202-bb(4)(a) of the State Administrative Procedure Act. The proposed regulations do not impose an adverse impact on facilities in rural areas, and they do not impose reporting, record keeping or other compliance requirements on facilities in rural areas.

JOB IMPACT STATEMENT

A Job Impact Statement is not required pursuant to Section 201-a(2)(a) of the State Administrative Procedure Act. The proposed rule will not have a substantial adverse impact on jobs or employment opportunities, nor does it have adverse implications for job opportunities.

EMERGENCY JUSTIFICATION

The proposed amendment restricts Article 28 hospitals eligible to receive a non-comparable ambulance add-on in their acute inpatient rate to providers that are not receiving a supplemental payment for these costs in accordance with Chapter 56 of the Laws of 2020 effective on October 1, 2020.

Section three of Part LL of Chapter 56 of the Laws of 2020 provides the Commissioner of Health with authority to issue emergency regulations. This regulation amendment is required in order to eliminate any potential duplicate payment for these ambulance services.