

TABLE 2 TO PARAGRAPH (b)

	Commodity	Parts per million	Expiration date
*	*	*	*
Sugarcane, cane		3	12/31/2023
Sugarcane, molasses		90	12/31/2023
*	*	*	*

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 [FR Doc. 2021-08598 Filed 4-23-21; 8:45 am]
 BILLING CODE 6560-50-P

GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

41 CFR Part 105-70

[FPMR Case 2021-101-1; Docket No. 2021-0007; Sequence No. 1]

RIN 3090-AK43

Program Fraud Civil Remedies Act of 1986, Civil Monetary Penalties Inflation Adjustment

AGENCY: Office of General Counsel, General Services Administration.
ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Federal Civil Penalties Inflation Adjustment Act of 1990, as amended by the Debt Collection Improvement Act of 1996 and further amended by the Federal Civil Penalties Inflation Adjustment Act Improvement Act of 2015, this final rule incorporates the penalty inflation adjustments for the civil monetary penalties set forth in the United States Code, as codified in our regulations.

DATES: *Effective:* May 26, 2021.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Aaron Pound, Assistant General Counsel, General Law Division (LG), General Services Administration, 1800 F Street NW, Washington, DC 20405. Telephone Number 202-501-1460.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. The Debt Collection Improvement Act of 1996

To maintain the remedial impact of civil monetary penalties (CMPs) and to promote compliance with the law, the Federal Civil Penalties Inflation Adjustment Act of 1990 (Pub. L. 101-410) was amended by the Debt Collection Improvement Act of 1996 (Pub. L. 104-134) to require Federal agencies to regularly adjust certain CMPs for inflation and further amended by the Federal Civil Penalties Inflation

Adjustment Act Improvement Act of 2015 (Sec. 701 of Pub. L. 114-74). As amended, the law requires each agency to make an initial inflationary adjustment for all applicable CMPs, and to make further adjustments at least once every year thereafter for these penalty amounts. The Debt Collection Improvement Act of 1996 further stipulates that any resulting increases in a CMP due to the calculated inflation adjustments shall apply only to violations which occur after the date the increase takes effect, *i.e.*, thirty (30) days after date of publication in the **Federal Register**. Pursuant to the 2015 Act, agencies are required to adjust the level of the CMP with an initial “catch up”, and make subsequent annual adjustments for inflation. Catch up adjustments are based on the percent change between the Consumer Price Index for Urban Consumers (CPI-U) for the month of October for the year of the previous adjustment, and the October 2015 CPI-U. Annual inflation adjustments will be based on the percent change between the October CPI-U preceding the date of adjustment and the prior year’s October CPI-U.

II. The Program Fraud Civil Remedies Act of 1986

In 1986, sections 6103 and 6104 of the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1986 (Pub. L. 99-501) set forth the Program Fraud Civil Remedies Act of 1986 (PFCRA). Specifically, this statute imposes a CMP and an assessment against any person who, with knowledge or reason to know, makes, submits, or presents a false, fictitious, or fraudulent claim or statement to the Government. The General Services Administration’s regulations, published in the **Federal Register** (61 FR 246, December 20, 1996) and codified at 41 CFR part 105-70, set forth a CMP of up to \$10,781 for each false claim or statement made to the agency. Based on the penalty amount inflation factor calculation, derived from originally dividing the June 2015 CPI by the June 1996 CPI and making the CPI-based annual adjustment thereafter, after rounding we are adjusting the maximum

penalty amount for this CMP to \$11,001 per violation.

III. Waiver of Proposed Rulemaking

In developing this final rule, we are waiving the usual notice of proposed rulemaking and public comment procedures set forth in the Administrative Procedure Act, 5 U.S.C. 553 (APA). The APA provides an exception to the notice and comment procedures when an agency finds there is good cause for dispensing with such procedures on the basis that they are impracticable, unnecessary, or contrary to the public interest. We have determined that under 5 U.S.C. 553(b)(3)(B) good cause exists for dispensing with the notice of proposed rulemaking and public comment procedures for this rule. Specifically, this rulemaking comports and is consistent with the statutory authority set forth in the Debt Collection Improvement Act of 1996, with no issues of policy discretion. Accordingly, we believe that opportunity for prior comment is unnecessary and contrary to the public interest, and we are issuing these revised regulations as a final rule that will apply to all future cases under this authority.

IV. Executive Orders 12866 and 13563

Executive Orders (E.O.s) 12866 and 13563 direct agencies to assess all costs and benefits of available regulatory alternatives and, if regulation is necessary, to select regulatory approaches that maximize net benefits (including potential economic, environmental, public health and safety effects, distributive impacts, and equity). E.O. 13563 emphasizes the importance of quantifying both costs and benefits, of reducing costs, of harmonizing rules, and of promoting flexibility. This is a not significant regulatory action and, therefore, was not subject to review under Section 6(b) of E.O. 12866, Regulatory Planning and Review, dated September 30, 1993. This rule is not a major rule under 5 U.S.C. 804.

The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) has reviewed this final rule in

accordance with the provisions of E.O. 12866 and has determined that it does not meet the criteria for a significant regulatory action. As indicated above, the provisions contained in this final rulemaking set forth the inflation adjustments in compliance with the Debt Collection Improvement Act of 1996 for specific applicable CMPs. The great majority of individuals, organizations and entities addressed through these regulations do not engage in such prohibited conduct, and as a result, we believe that any aggregate economic impact of these revised regulations will be minimal, affecting only those limited few who may engage in prohibited conduct in violation of the statute. As such, this final rule and the inflation adjustment contained therein should have no effect on Federal or state expenditures.

V. Regulatory Flexibility Act

The Administrator of General Services certifies that this final rule will not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small business entities. While some penalties may have an impact on small business entities, it is the nature of the violation and not the size of the entity that will result in an action by the agency, and the aggregate economic impact of this rulemaking on small business entities should be minimal, affecting only those few who have engaged in prohibited conduct in violation of statutory intent.

VI. Paperwork Reduction Act

This final rule imposes no new reporting or recordkeeping requirements necessitating clearance by OMB.

List of Subject in 41 CFR Part 105–70

Administrative hearing, Claims, Program fraud.

Katy Kale,

Acting Administrator.

Accordingly, 41 CFR part 105–70 is amended as set forth below:

PART 105–70—IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROGRAM FRAUD CIVIL REMEDIES ACT OF 1986

■ 1. The authority citation for part 105–70 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 40 U.S.C. 121(c); 31 U.S.C. 3809.

§ 105–70.003 [Amended]

■ 2. Amend § 105–70.003 by—

■ a. Removing from paragraph (a)(1)(iv) the amount “11,282” and adding “11,400” in its place; and

■ b. Removing from paragraph (b)(1)(ii) the amount “11,282” and adding “11,400” in its place.

[FR Doc. 2021–08600 Filed 4–23–21; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services

42 CFR Part 414

[CMS–1687–RCN]

RIN 0938–AT21

Medicare Program; Durable Medical Equipment Fee Schedule Adjustments To Resume the Transitional 50/50 Blended Rates To Provide Relief in Rural Areas and Non-Contiguous Areas; Extension of Timeline for Final Rule Publication

AGENCY: Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), Department of Health and Human Services (HHS).

ACTION: Continuation of effectiveness and extension of timeline for publication of the final rule.

SUMMARY: This document announces the continuation of effectiveness of a Medicare interim final rule and the extension of the timeline for publication of the final rule. Section 1871(a)(3)(B) of the Social Security Act (the Act) specifies that a Medicare final rule must be published no later than 3 years after the publication date of the proposed or interim final rule, except under exceptional circumstances. In accordance with sections 1871(a)(3)(B) and 1871(a)(3)(C) of the Act, we are providing a notification of continuation for a Medicare interim final rule, announcing the different timeline on which we intend to publish the final rule, and explaining why we were unable to publish the final rule on the regular, required 3-year timeline.

DATES: As of April 23, 2021, the Medicare provisions adopted in the interim final rule published on May 11, 2018 (83 FR 21912) continue in effect and the regular timeline for publication of the final rule is extended for an additional year, until May 11, 2022.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Alexander Ullman, (410) 786–9671 or DMEPOS@cms.hhs.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: In the May 11, 2018 *Federal Register* (83 FR 21912), we published an interim final rule with comment period (IFC) titled “Medicare Program; Durable Medical

Equipment Fee Schedule Adjustments to Resume the Transitional 50/50 Blended Rates to Provide Relief in Rural Areas and Non-Contiguous Areas”. The May 2018 IFC made technical amendments to the regulation to reflect the extension of the transition period from June 30, 2016 to December 31, 2016 that was mandated by the 21st Century Cures Act for phasing in fee schedule adjustments for certain durable medical equipment (DME) and enteral nutrition furnished in areas not subject to the Durable Medical Equipment, Prosthetics, Orthotics, and Supplies (DMEPOS) Competitive Bidding Program (CBP) (83 FR 21915). In addition, in the May 2018 IFC, CMS—(1) amended 42 CFR 414.210(g) to resume the transition period’s blended fee schedule rates for items furnished in rural areas and non-contiguous areas (Alaska, Hawaii, and United States territories) not subject to the CBP from June 1, 2018 through December 31, 2018 (83 FR 21915); (2) made technical amendments to existing DMEPOS regulations to reflect the exclusion of infusion drugs used with DME from the DMEPOS CBP (83 FR 21919); and (3) stated that the fee schedule amounts for wheelchair accessories and back and seat cushions used in conjunction with group 3 power wheelchairs would continue to be based on the unadjusted fee schedule amounts updated by the covered item update specified in section 1834(a)(14) of the Act (83 FR 21919). We stated that the fee schedule amounts for all other accessories used with different types of base equipment would continue to be calculated in accordance with the adjustment methodology set forth in § 414.210(g)(5) of our regulations (83 FR 21919).

Section 1871(a)(3)(B) of the Act requires CMS to publish a Medicare final rule no later than 3 years after the publication of a proposed or interim final rule, except under exceptional circumstances. In such circumstances, section 1871(a)(3)(B) of the Act allows the Secretary to vary the final regulation publication timeline if the Secretary provides public notice of the different timeline on which it intends to publish the final regulation, and that notice includes a brief explanation of the justification for the variation. The notice must be published by no later than the timeline previously established with respect to the final rule publication date.

The May 2018 IFC was published on May 11, 2018. Therefore, in accordance with section 1871(a)(3)(B) of the Act, we must finalize the May 2018 IFC by May 11, 2021, except under exceptional