

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Disease, Disability, and Injury Prevention and Control Special Emphasis Panel: Occupational Safety and Health Research, Collaborative Program for the Identification and Prevention of Work-related Musculoskeletal Disorders, Request for Application OH-02-010

In accordance with section 10(a)(2) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 92-463), the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) announces the following meeting:

Name: Disease, Disability, and Injury Prevention and Control Special Emphasis Panel: Occupational Safety and Health Research, Collaborative Program for the Identification and Prevention of Work-related Musculoskeletal Disorders, RFA OH-02-010.

Times and Dates: 8 a.m.-8:30 a.m., August 20, 2002 (Open) 8:30 p.m.-5 p.m., August 20, 2002 (Closed)

Place: Harbor Court Hotel, 550 Light Street, Baltimore, MD 21202, 410/234-0550

Status: Portions of the meeting will be closed to the public in accordance with provisions set forth in section 552b(c) (4) and (6), Title 5 U.S.C., and the Determination of the Director, Management Analysis and Services Office, CDC, pursuant to Public Law 92-463.

Matters to be Discussed: The meeting will include the review, discussion, and evaluation of applications received in response to RFA OH-02-010.

Contact Person for More Information: Laurie Piacitelli, Scientific Review Administrator, Office of Extramural Programs, Office of the Director, National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, CDC, Cincinnati, OH, 513/841-4567.

The Director, Management Analysis and Services Office has been delegated the authority to sign **Federal Register** notices pertaining to announcements of meetings and other committee management activities, for both the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry.

Dated: July 25, 2002.

John Burckhardt,

Acting Director, Management Analysis and Services Office, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

[FR Doc. 02-19399 Filed 7-31-02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4163-19-P

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Centers For Medicare & Medicaid Services

Notice of Hearing; Reconsideration of Disapproval of Connecticut Medicaid State Plan Amendment (SPA) 01-011B

AGENCY: Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), HHS.

ACTION: Notice of Hearing.

SUMMARY: This notice announces an administrative hearing on August 30, 2002, at 10 a.m., at the JFK Federal Building; Room 2250, Boston, Massachusetts 02203-0003, to reconsider our decision to disapprove Connecticut SPA 01-011B.

Closing Date: Requests to participate in the hearing as a party must be received by the presiding officer by August 16, 2002.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Kathleen Scully-Hayes, Presiding Officer, CMS, C1-09-13, 7500 Security Boulevard, Baltimore, Maryland 21244, Telephone: (410)-786-2055.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This notice announces an administrative hearing to reconsider our decision to disapprove Connecticut SPA 01-011B.

Section 1116 of the Social Security Act (the Act) and 42 CFR part 430 establish Department procedures that provide an administrative hearing for reconsideration of a disapproval of a State plan or plan amendment. The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid (CMS) is required to publish a copy of the notice to a State Medicaid agency that informs the agency of the time and place of the hearing and the issues to be considered. If we subsequently notify the agency of additional issues that will be considered at the hearing, we will also publish that notice.

Any individual or group that wants to participate in the hearing as a party must petition the presiding officer within 15 days after publication of this notice, in accordance with the requirements contained at 42 CFR 430.76(b)(2). Any interested person or organization that wants to participate as amicus curiae must petition the presiding officer before the hearing begins in accordance with the requirements contained at 42 CFR 430.76(c). If the hearing is later rescheduled, the presiding officer will notify all participants.

The issue is whether SPA 01-011B complies with requirements for publication of public notice and the effective date. Connecticut submitted SPA 01-011B on September 21, 2001.

The amendment would provide an update factor for inpatient hospital rates as of July 1, 2001. The State indicated in its response dated February 22, 2002, that it published a public notice on September 26, 2001. Under section 1902(a)(13)(A) of the Act, payment rates for hospital services must be established through a public process which includes notice and a reasonable opportunity for review and comment. Federal regulations at 42 CFR 447.205 state that the public notice must be published before the proposed effective date of any significant change in payment rates. The CMS interprets this advance public notice requirement to mean the notice must be published at least one calendar day prior to the proposed effective date.

Therefore, the earliest approvable effective date for this amendment is September 27, 2001. Because the State requested an effective date of July 1, 2001, CMS was unable to approve the requested amendment.

The notice to Connecticut announcing an administrative hearing to reconsider the disapproval of its SPA reads as follows:

Mr. Michael P. Starkowski, Deputy Commissioner, State of Connecticut, Department of Social Services, 25 Sigourney Street, Hartford, CT 06106-5033.

Dear Mr. Starkowski: I am responding to your request for reconsideration of the decision to disapprove Connecticut State Plan Amendment (SPA) 01-011B.

The issue involves publication of public notice and effective date. Connecticut submitted SPA 01-011B on September 21, 2001. The amendment would provide an update factor for inpatient hospital rates as of July 1, 2001. For the reasons stated below, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) was unable to approve this amendment.

The issue is whether SPA 01-011B complies with requirements for publication of public notice and the effective date. Connecticut submitted SPA 01-011B on September 21, 2001. The amendment would provide an update factor for inpatient hospital rates as of July 1, 2001. The State indicated in its response dated February 22, 2002, that it published a public notice on September 26, 2001. Under section 1902(a)(13)(A), payment rates for hospital services must be established through a public process which includes notice and a reasonable opportunity for review and comment. Federal regulations at 42 CFR 447.205 state that the public notice must be published before the proposed effective date of any significant change in payment rates. The CMS interprets this advance public notice requirement to mean the notice must be published at least one calendar day prior to the proposed effective date. Therefore, the earliest approvable effective date for this amendment is September 27, 2001. Because

the State requested an effective date of July 1, 2001, CMS was unable to approve the requested amendment.

I am scheduling a hearing on your request for reconsideration to be held on August 30, 2002, at 10 a.m., at the JFK Federal Building, Room 2250, Boston, Massachusetts 02203-0003, to reconsider our decision to disapprove Connecticut SPA 01-011B.

If this date is not acceptable, we would be glad to set another date that is mutually agreeable to the parties. The hearing will be governed by the procedures prescribed at 42 CFR part 430.

I am designating Ms. Kathleen Scully-Hayes as the presiding officer. If these arrangements present any problems, please contact the presiding officer. In order to facilitate any communication which may be necessary between the parties to the hearing, please notify the 2 presiding officer to indicate acceptability of the hearing date that has been scheduled and provide names of the individuals who will represent the State at the hearing. The presiding officer may be reached at (410) 786-2055.

Sincerely,
Thomas A. Scully.

(Sec. 1116 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. sec. 1316); 42 CFR 430.18)

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Program No. 13.714, Medicaid Assistance Program)

Dated: July 3, 2002.

Thomas A. Scully,

Administrator, Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services.

[FR Doc. 02-19021 Filed 7-31-02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4150-24-P

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services

[CMS-1205-N]

RIN 0938-AL22

Medicare Program; Inpatient Rehabilitation Facility Prospective Payment System for FY 2003

AGENCY: Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), HHS.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This notice updates prospective payment rates for inpatient rehabilitation facilities for Federal fiscal year (FY) 2003 as authorized under section 1886(j)(3)(C) of the Social Security Act (the Act). Section 1886(j)(5) of the Act requires the Secretary to publish in the **Federal Register** on or before August 1 before each fiscal year, the classifications and weighting factors for the inpatient rehabilitation facility (IRF) case-mix groups and a description of the methodology and data used in

computing the prospective payment rates for that fiscal year.

DATES: Effective Date: The updated IRF prospective payment rates are effective for discharges occurring on or after October 1, 2002 and on or before September 30, 2003 (FY 2003).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Robert Kuhl, (410) 786-4597, Nora Hoban, (410) 786-0675.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Availability of Copies and Electronic Access

To order copies of the **Federal Register** containing this document, send your request to: New Orders, Superintendent of Documents, P.O. Box 371954, Pittsburgh, PA 15250-7954. Specify the date of the issue requested and enclose a check or money order payable to the Superintendent of Documents, or enclose your Visa or Master Card number and expiration date. Credit card orders can also be placed by calling the order desk at (202) 512-1800 (or toll-free at 1-888-293-6498) or by faxing to (202) 512-2250. The cost for each copy is \$9. As an alternative, you can view and photocopy the Federal Register document at most libraries designated as Federal Depository Libraries and at many other public and academic libraries throughout the country that receive the **Federal Register**.

This **Federal Register** document is also available from the Federal Register online database through *GPO Access*, a service of the U.S. Government Printing Office. The web site address is <http://www.access.gpo.gov/nara/index.html>.

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I. Background

A. Requirements of the Statute for Updating the Prospective Payment System (PPS) for Inpatient Rehabilitation Facilities (IRFs)

On August 7, 2001, we published a final rule entitled "Medicare Program; Prospective Payment System for Inpatient Rehabilitation Facilities (CMS-1069-F)" in the **Federal Register** (66 FR 41316), that established a prospective payment system (PPS) for inpatient rehabilitation facilities (IRFs) as authorized under section 1886(j) of the Social Security Act (the Act) and codified at subpart P of part 412 of the Medicare regulations. In the August 7, 2001 final rule, we set forth per discharge Federal rates for FY 2002 that provided payment for inpatient operating and capital costs of furnishing covered rehabilitation services (that is, routine, ancillary, and capital costs) but not costs of approved educational activities, bad debts, and other services or items that are outside the scope of the IRF PPS.

Covered rehabilitation services include services for which benefits are provided under the fee-for-service Part A (Hospital Insurance Program) of the Medicare program. Annual updates to the IRF PPS rates are required by section 1886(j)(3)(C) of the Act.

In this notice, we set forth the prospective payment rates applicable for IRFs for discharges occurring during FY 2003 as mandated by the Act. In establishing these payment rates, we update the IRF per discharge payment rates that were published in the August 7, 2001 final rule.

Section 1886(j)(5) of the Act requires the Secretary to publish in the **Federal Register**, on or before August 1 of the preceding fiscal year, the classifications and weighting factors for the IRF case-mix groups (CMGs) and a description of the methodology and data used in computing the prospective payment rates for the upcoming fiscal year. In this notice, we are using the same classifications and weighting factors for the IRF CMGs that were set forth in the August 7, 2001 final rule. Although the statute permits the Secretary to adjust the classification and weighting factors for IRF CMGs from time to time, we are not making any adjustments at this time because the data are not available as discussed in section I.C of this notice. Further, the case and facility level adjustments described in the August 7,