8.300 HOSPITAL SERVICES

8.300.1 Definitions

Abbreviated Client Stay means an Inpatient stay ending in client death or in which the client leaves against medical advice.

Concurrent Review means a review of quality, Medical Necessity and/or appropriateness of a health care procedure, treatment or service during the course of treatment.

Continued Stay Review means a review of quality, Medical Necessity and appropriateness of an Inpatient health care procedure, treatment or service.

Department means the Department of Health Care Policy and Financing.

Diagnosis Related Group (DRG) means a cluster of similar conditions within a classification system used for Hospital reimbursement. It reflects clinically cohesive groupings of Inpatient hospitalizations that utilize similar amounts of Hospital resources.

DRG Hospital means a Hospital that is reimbursed by the Colorado Medicaid program based on a system of DRGs. Those Hospitals reimbursed based on a DRG system are: General Hospitals, Critical Access Hospitals, Pediatric Hospitals, Rehabilitation Hospitals, and Long-Term Care Hospitals.

Diagnostic Services means any medical procedures or supplies recommended by a licensed professional within the scope of his/her practice under state law to enable him/her to identify the existence, nature, or extent of illness, injury or other health condition in a client.

Disproportionate Share Hospital (DSH) Factor is a percentage add-on adjustment that qualified Hospitals receive for serving a disproportionate share of low-income clients.

Emergency Care Services, for the purposes of this rule, means services for a medical condition, including active labor and delivery, manifested by acute symptoms of sufficient severity, including severe pain, for which the absence of immediate medical attention could reasonably be expected to result in: (1) placing the client’s health in serious jeopardy, (2) serious impairment to bodily functions or (3) serious dysfunction of any bodily organ or part.

Enhanced Ambulatory Patient Group (EAPG) means a cluster of similar procedures within a classification system used for Hospital reimbursement. It reflects clinically cohesive groupings of services performed during Outpatient visits that utilize similar amounts of Hospital resources.

Hospital means an institution that is (1) primarily engaged in providing, by or under the supervision of physicians, Inpatient medical or surgical care and treatment, including diagnostic, therapeutic and rehabilitation services, for the sick, disabled and injured; (2) licensed, when located in Colorado, as a Hospital by the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE); and, when not located in Colorado, by the state in which it is located; and (3) certified for participation in the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) Medicare program. Hospitals can have multiple satellite locations as long as they meet the requirements under CMS. For the purposes of the Colorado Medicaid program, distinct part units and satellite locations are considered part of the Hospital under which they are licensed. Transitional Care Units (TCUs) are not considered part of the Hospital for purposes of the Colorado Medicaid program. Types of Hospitals are:
A General Hospital is licensed and CMS-certified as a General Hospital that, under an organized medical staff, provides Inpatient services, emergency medical and surgical care, continuous nursing services, and necessary ancillary services. A General Hospital may also offer and provide Outpatient services, or any other supportive services for periods of less than twenty-four hours per day.

A Critical Access Hospital (CAH) is licensed and CMS-certified as a Critical Access Hospital. CAHs offer emergency services and limited Inpatient care. CAHs may offer limited surgical services and/or obstetrical services including a delivery room and nursery.

A Pediatric Hospital is licensed as a General Hospital and CMS-certified as a children’s Hospital providing care primarily to populations aged seventeen years and under.

A Rehabilitation Hospital is licensed and CMS-certified as a Rehabilitation Hospital which primarily serves an Inpatient population requiring intensive rehabilitative services including but not limited to stroke, spinal cord injury, congenital deformity, amputation, major multiple trauma, fracture of femur, brain injury, and other disorders or injuries requiring intensive rehabilitation.

A Long-Term Care Hospital is licensed as a General Hospital and CMS-certified as a Long-Term Care Hospital. In general, Long-Term Care Hospitals have an average length of stay of greater than twenty-five (25) days.

A Psychiatric Hospital is licensed and CMS-certified as a Psychiatric Hospital to plan, organize, operate, and maintain facilities, beds, and treatment, including diagnostic, therapeutic and rehabilitation services, over a continuous period exceeding twenty-four (24) hours, to individuals requiring early diagnosis, intensive and continued clinical therapy for mental illness; and mental rehabilitation. A Psychiatric Hospital can qualify to be a state-owned Psychiatric Hospital if it is operated by the Colorado Department of Human Services.

Inpatient means a person who is receiving professional services at a Hospital; the services include a room and are provided on a continuous 24-hour-a-day basis. Generally, a person is considered an Inpatient by a physician’s order if formally admitted as an Inpatient with the expectation that the client will remain at least overnight and occupy a bed even though it later develops that the client can be discharged or transferred to another Hospital and does not actually use a bed overnight.

Inpatient Hospital Services means preventive, therapeutic, surgical, diagnostic, medical and rehabilitative services that are furnished by a Hospital for the care and treatment of Inpatients and are provided in the Hospital by or under the direction of a physician.

Medically Necessary, or Medical Necessity, means a Medicaid service that will, or is reasonably expected to prevent, diagnose, cure, correct, reduce or ameliorate the pain and suffering, or the physical, mental, cognitive or developmental effects of an illness, injury, or disability; and for which there is no other equally effective or substantially less costly course of treatment suitable for the client’s needs.

Non-DRG Hospital means a Hospital that is not reimbursed by the Colorado Medicaid program based on a system of DRGs. Psychiatric Hospitals are considered Non-DRG Hospitals since their reimbursement is based on a per diem rate.

Observation Stay means a stay in the Hospital for no more than forty-eight hours for the purpose of (a) evaluating a client for possible Inpatient admission; or (b) treating clients expected to be stabilized and released in no more than 24 hours; or (c) extended recovery following a complication of an Outpatient procedure. Only rarely will an Observation Stay exceed twenty-four hours in length.

Outlier Days mean the days in a Hospital stay that occur after the Trim Point Day.
Outpatient means a client who is receiving professional services at a Hospital, which is not providing him/her with room and board and professional services on a continuous 24-hour-a-day basis.

Outpatient Hospital Services means preventive, diagnostic, therapeutic, rehabilitative, or palliative services that are furnished to Outpatients; and are furnished by or under the direction of a physician or dentist.

Prospective Review means a review of quality, Medical Necessity and/or appropriateness of a health care procedure, treatment or service prior to treatment.

Rehabilitative Services means any medical or remedial services recommended by a physician within the scope of his/her practice under state law, for maximum reduction of physical or mental disability and restoration of a client to his/her best possible functional level.

Relative Weight (DRG weight or EAPG weight) means a numerical value which reflects the relative resource consumption for the DRG or EAPG to which it is assigned. Modifications to these Relative Weights are made when needed to ensure payments reasonably reflect the average cost of claims for each DRG or EAPG. Relative Weights are intended to be cost effective, and based upon Colorado data as available.

Retrospective Review means a review of quality, Medical Necessity and/or appropriateness of a health care procedure, treatment or service following treatment. A Retrospective Review can occur before or after reimbursement has been made.

Rural Hospital means a Hospital not located within a metropolitan statistical area (MSA) as designated by the United States Office of Management & Budget.

State University Teaching Hospital means a Hospital which provides supervised teaching experiences to graduate medical school interns and residents enrolled in a state institution of higher education; and in which more than fifty percent (50%) of its credentialed physicians are members of the faculty at a state institution of higher education.

Swing Bed Designation means designation of Hospital beds in a Rural Hospital with less than 100 beds for reimbursement under Medicare for furnishing post-hospital extended care services to Medicare beneficiaries in compliance with the Social Security Act, Sections 1883 and 1866. Such beds are called “swing beds.”

Trim Point Day (Outlier Threshold Day) means the day which would occur 2.58 standard deviations above the mean (average) length of stay (ALOS) for each DRG.

Urban Hospital means a Hospital located within a MSA as designated by the United States Office of Management & Budget.

Urban Safety Net Hospital means an Urban, General Hospital for which the Medicaid Inpatient eligible days plus Colorado Indigent Care Program (CICP) Inpatient days relative to total Inpatient days, rounded to the nearest percent are equal to or exceed sixty-five percent. To qualify as an Urban Safety Net Hospital, a Hospital must submit its most current information on Inpatient days by March 1 of each year for the Inpatient rates effective on July 1 of that same year. The Department may rely on other data sources for the calculation if there are discrepancies between the data submitted by the Hospital and alternative data sources such as claims or cost report data.

8.300.6 Payments For Outpatient Hospital Services
8.300.6.A Payments to DRG Hospitals for Outpatient Services

1. Payments to In-Network Colorado DRG Hospitals

Excluding items that are reimbursed according to the Department’s fee schedule, Outpatient Hospital Services are reimbursed on an interim basis at actual billed charges multiplied by the Medicare cost-to-charge ratio less 28%. When the Department determines that the Medicare cost-to-charge ratio is not representative of a Hospital’s Outpatient costs, the cost-to-charge ratio may be calculated using historical data. A periodic cost audit is done and any necessary retrospective adjustment is made to bring reimbursement to the lower of actual audited Medicaid cost less 28% or billed charges less 28%.

Effective September 1, 2009, Outpatient Hospital Services are reimbursed on an interim basis at actual billed charges times the Medicare cost-to-charge ratio less 29.1 percent (29.1%). When the Department determines that the Medicare cost-to-charge ratio is not representative of a hospital’s outpatient costs, the cost-to-charge ratio may be calculated using historical data. A periodic cost audit is done and any necessary retrospective adjustment is made to bring reimbursement to the lower of actual audited cost less 29.1 percent (29.1%) or billed charges less 29.1 percent (29.1%).

Effective January 1, 2010, Outpatient Hospital Services are reimbursed on an interim basis at actual billed charges times the Medicare cost-to-charge ratio less 30 percent (30%). When the Department determines that the Medicare cost-to-charge ratio is not representative of a hospital’s outpatient costs, the cost-to-charge ratio may be calculated using historical data. A periodic cost audit is done and any necessary retrospective adjustment is made to bring reimbursement to the lower of actual audited cost less 30 percent (30%) or billed charges less 30 percent (30%).

Effective July 1, 2010, Outpatient Hospital Services are reimbursed on an interim basis at actual billed charges times the Medicare cost-to-charge ratio less 30.7 percent (30.7%). When the Department determines that the Medicare cost-to-charge ratio is not representative of a hospital’s outpatient costs, the cost-to-charge ratio may be calculated using historical data. A periodic cost audit is done and any necessary retrospective adjustment is made to bring reimbursement to the lower of actual audited cost less 30.7 percent (30.7%) or billed charges less 30.7 percent (30.7%).

Effective July 1, 2011, Outpatient Hospital Services are reimbursed on an interim basis at actual billed charges times the Medicare cost-to-charge ratio less 31.2 percent (31.2%). When the Department determines that the Medicare cost-to-charge ratio is not representative of a hospital’s outpatient costs, the cost-to-charge ratio may be calculated using historical data. A periodic cost audit is done and any necessary retrospective adjustment is made to bring reimbursement to the lower of actual audited cost less 31.2 percent (31.2%) or billed charges less 31.2 percent (31.2%).

Effective July 1, 2013, Outpatient Hospital Services are reimbursed on an interim basis at actual billed charges times the Medicare cost-to-charge ratio less 29.8 percent (29.8%). When the Department determines that the Medicare cost-to-charge ratio is not representative of a hospital’s outpatient costs, the cost-to-charge ratio may be calculated using historical data. A periodic cost audit is done and any necessary retrospective
adjustment is made to bring reimbursement to the lower of actual audited cost less 29.8 percent (29.8%) or billed charges less 29.8 percent (29.8%).

Effective July 1, 2014, Outpatient Hospital Services are reimbursed on an interim basis at actual billed charges times the Medicare cost-to-charge ratio less 28.4 percent (28.4%). When the Department determines that the Medicare cost-to-charge ratio is not representative of a hospital's outpatient costs, the cost-to-charge ratio may be calculated using historical data. A periodic cost audit is done and any necessary retrospective adjustment is made to bring reimbursement to the lower of actual audited cost less 28.4 percent (28.4%) or billed charges less 28.4 percent (28.4%).

Effective July 1, 2015, Outpatient Hospital Services are reimbursed on an interim basis at actual billed charges times the Medicare cost-to-charge ratio less 28 percent (28%). When the Department determines that the Medicare cost-to-charge ratio is not representative of a hospital's outpatient costs, the cost-to-charge ratio may be calculated using historical data. A periodic cost audit is done and any necessary retrospective adjustment is made to bring reimbursement to the lower of actual audited cost less 28 percent (28%) or billed charges less 28 percent (28%).

2. Payments to Out-of-Network DRG Hospitals

Excluding items that are reimbursed according to the Department's fee schedule, border-state Hospitals and out-of-network Hospitals, including out-of-state Hospitals, shall be paid 30% of billed charges for Outpatient Hospital Services. Consideration of additional reimbursement shall be made on a case-by-case basis in accordance with supporting documentation submitted by the Hospital.

8.394.1 PERFORMANCE BASED CONTRACT

A Single Entry Point agency shall be bound to the terms of the contract between the agency and the Department, including quality assurance standards and compliance with the Department's rules for Single Entry Point agencies and for publicly funded programs.

8.394.2 CERTIFICATION OF SINGLE ENTRY POINT AGENCIES

A Single Entry Point agency shall be certified annually in accordance with quality assurance standards and requirements set forth in the Department's rules and in the contract between the agency and the Department.

A. Certification as a Single Entry Point agency shall be based on an evaluation of the agency's performance in the following areas:

1. The quality of the services provided by the agency;

2. The agency's compliance with program requirements, including compliance with case management standards adopted by the Department;

3. The agency's performance of administrative functions, including reasonable costs per client, timely reporting, managing programs in one consolidated unit, on-site visits to clients, community coordination and outreach, and client monitoring;

4. Whether targeted populations are being identified and served;
5. Financial accountability, and

6. The maintenance of qualified personnel to perform the contracted duties.

B. The Department or its designee shall conduct reviews of the Single Entry Point agency.

C. At least sixty (60) days prior to expiration of the previous year's certification, the Department shall notify the Single Entry Point agency of the outcome of the review, which may be approval, provisional approval, or denial of certification.

.21 Provisional approval of certification. In the event a Single Entry Point agency does not meet all of the quality assurance standards established by the Department, the agency may receive provisional approval of certification for a period not to exceed sixty (60) days, provided the deficiencies do not constitute a threat to the health and safety of clients.

A. The agency will receive notification of the deficiencies and a request to submit a corrective action plan to be approved by the Department. Upon receipt and review of the corrective action plan, at the Department's option, a second sixty-day provisional certification may be approved.

B. The Department or its designee shall provide technical assistance to facilitate corrective action.

.22 Denial of certification. In the event certification as a Single Entry Point agency is denied, the procedure for Single Entry Point agency termination or non-renewal of contract shall apply (Section 8.391.22).

NOTE: Sections 8.394.3 - 8.394.4 were deleted effective December 2, 2002.
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Effective October 31, 2016, DRG Hospitals will be reimbursed for Outpatient Hospital Services based on a system of Enhanced Ambulatory Patient Grouping and a Hospital-specific Medicaid Outpatient base rate. The reimbursement for Outpatient Hospital Services shall be referred to as the EAPG Payment.

a. The EAPG Payment will be equal to the EAPG Weight multiplied by the Hospital-specific Medicaid Outpatient base rate for that hospital as calculated in 10 CCR 2505-10 Section 8.300.6.A.1.k. If the EAPG Weight is modified due to any action impacting payment as described in sections 8.300.6.A.1.d-j, the modified EAPG Weight will be referred to as the EAPG Adjusted Weight. EAPG Payment will then be equal to the EAPG Adjusted Weight multiplied by the Hospital-specific Medicaid Outpatient base rate. If the billed amount is less than the EAPG Payment, reimbursement will be the billed amount.

b. The EAPG Payment is calculated for each detail on the claim. Claim details with the same dates of service are grouped into a visit. Claims containing details describing charges for emergency room, treatment room services or patients placed under observation will have all its details grouped into a single visit.

c. Each detail on a claim is assigned an EAPG. EAPGs can have the following types:

(1) Per Diem

(2) Significant Procedure. Subtypes of Significant Procedures Are:

(a) General Significant Procedures

(b) Physical Therapy and Rehabilitation

(c) Mental Health and Counseling

(d) Dental Procedure
(e) Radiologic Procedure

(f) Diagnostic Significant Procedure

(3) Medical Visit

(4) Ancillary

(5) Incidental

(6) Drug

(7) Durable Medical Equipment

(8) Unassigned

d. A detail will be subject to EAPG Consolidation when it is assigned the same Significant Procedure EAPG as a detail not already subjected to EAPG Consolidation for that visit. EAPG Consolidation will also occur for details assigned EAPGs considered to be clinically similar to another EAPG during the visit. Details subject to EAPG Consolidation will have an EAPG Payment calculated using an EAPG Weight of 0.

e. A detail will be subject to EAPG Packaging when its assigned EAPG is considered an ancillary service to a Significant Procedure EAPG or Medical Visit EAPG present on the claim for that visit. Details describing additional undifferentiated medical visits and services will be exempt from EAPG Packaging. A detail is also subject to EAPG Packaging when it is assigned a Medical Visit EAPG while a Significant Procedure EAPG is present on the claim for that visit. Details assigned Significant Procedure EAPGs that are of subtypes Physical Therapy and Rehabilitation and Radiologic Significant Procedure do not cause details with Medical Visit EAPGs to be subject to EAPG Packaging.

Details subject to EAPG Packaging will be calculated using an EAPG Weight of 0.

f. A detail will qualify for Multiple Significant Procedure Discounting when a Significant Procedure of the same subtype is present on the claim for that visit. Details qualifying for Multiple Significant Procedure Discounting are ordered by their EAPG Weight, by visit. Per visit, the qualifying detail with the greatest EAPG Weight will have its EAPG Payment calculated at 100 percent (100%) of its EAPG Weight. The qualifying detail for that visit with the next greatest EAPG Weight will have its EAPG Payment calculated at 50 percent (50%) of its EAPG Weight. All other qualifying details for that visit will have its EAPG Payment calculated at 25 percent (25%) of their EAPG Weights.

g. Details assigned the same Ancillary EAPG on the same visit will qualify for Repeat Ancillary Discounting. EAPG Payment for the first occurrence of a detail qualifying for Repeat Ancillary Discounting for that visit and EAPG is calculated using 100 percent (100%) of its EAPG Weight. EAPG Payment for the second occurrence of a detail qualifying for Repeat Ancillary Discounting for that visit and EAPG is calculated using 50 percent (50%) of its EAPG Weight. EAPG Payment for all other details qualifying for Repeat Ancillary Discounting for that visit and EAPG will be calculated using 25 percent (25%) of their EAPG Weights.
h. Details describing terminated procedures will be subject to Terminated Procedure Discounting. EAPG Payment for a detail subject to Terminated Procedure Discounting is calculated using 50 percent (50%) of the EAPG Weight. Terminated procedures are not subject to other types of discounting.

i. Details describing bilateral services will have EAPG Payment calculated using 150 percent (150%) of the EAPG Weight or the EAPG Payment not resulting from Terminated Procedure Discounting.

j. Details describing 340B Drugs will have an EAPG Payment calculated using 50 percent (50%) of the EAPG Weight or the EAPG Payment not resulting from Terminated Procedure Discounting.

k. The Hospital-specific Medicaid Outpatient base rate for the year of the methodology implementation for each hospital is calculated using the following method.

1. Process Medicaid outpatient hospital claims from state fiscal year 2015, known as the Base Year, through the methodology described in 8.300.6.A.1.a-k using the Colorado’s EAPG Weights

(a) For the calculation of the Hospital-specific Medicaid Outpatient base rate for out-of-state hospital providers, all out-of-state hospital providers are treated as a single hospital. The resulting Hospital-specific Medicaid Outpatient base rate calculated through the remainder of this process shall be used for all out-of-state hospital providers.

2. Develop utilization trend factor for projecting from the Base Year to the fiscal year of EAPG implementation. The annual utilization trend factor is developed based on the claims data ranging from state fiscal years 2011 to 2013.

3. Aggregate the line item EAPG Adjusted Weights for the Base Year of claims that were processed through the EAPG grouper by hospital. The annual utilization trend factor is then applied to the aggregated weights of each hospital. For lines with incomplete data, estimations of EAPG Adjusted Weights will be used.

4. Calculate a standard base rate by dividing outpatient hospital budget by the sum of the aggregated weights per hospital. This quotient is then adjusted to meet budget constraints.

5. Calculate a unique base rate for hospitals with projected payments that exceed a +/-10% threshold based on the projected payments that would have been made under the prior outpatient hospital reimbursement methodology. If necessary, the standard base rate is adjusted to meet budget constraints. If the projected payments for a hospital are within the +/-10% threshold, the hospital receives the standard base rate.

2. Payments to Out-of-Network DRG Hospitals
Excluding items that are reimbursed according to the Department’s fee schedule, border-state Hospitals and out-of-network Hospitals, including out-of-state Hospitals, shall be paid 30% of billed charges for Outpatient Hospital Services. Consideration of additional reimbursement shall be made on a case-by-case basis in accordance with supporting documentation submitted by the Hospital.

Effective October 31, 2016, Out-of-Network PPS Hospitals will be reimbursed for Outpatient Hospital Services based the system of Enhanced Ambulatory Patient Grouping described in 10 CCR 2505-10 Section 8.300.6.A.1.