

NOTICE OF INTENT

**Department of Health and Hospitals
Bureau of Health Services Financing**

**Rehabilitation Clinics
Physical and Occupational Therapies
Reimbursement Rate Increase
(LAC 50:X1.301 and 303)**

The Department of Health and Hospitals, Bureau of Health Services Financing proposes to amend LAC 50:X1.301 and §303 in the Medical Assistance Program as authorized by R.S. 36:254 and pursuant to Title XIX of the Social Security Act. This proposed Rule is promulgated in accordance with the provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act, R.S. 49:950 et seq.

The Department of Health and Hospitals, Bureau of Health Services Financing provides Medicaid reimbursement for physical, occupational and speech therapies provided in rehabilitation clinics to recipients under the age of 21.

Due to a budgetary shortfall in state fiscal year 2013, the Department of Health and Hospitals, Bureau of Health Services Financing promulgated an Emergency Rule which amended the provisions governing rehabilitation clinics in order to terminate the coverage and Medicaid reimbursement of services rendered to recipients 21 years of age and older (*Louisiana Register*, Volume 39, Number 1).

In compliance with a court order from the *Melanie*

Chisholm, et al vs. Kathy Kliebert class action litigation, the Department of Health and Hospitals, Bureau of Health Services Financing promulgated an Emergency Rule which amended the reimbursement methodology for rehabilitation clinics in order to increase the reimbursement rates for physical and occupational therapy services rendered to recipients under the age of 21 (*Louisiana Register*, Volume 40, Number 2). This proposed Rule is being promulgated to continue the provisions of the February 13, 2014 Emergency Rule.

Title 50
PUBLIC HEALTH—MEDICAL ASSISTANCE
Part XI. Clinic Services
Subpart 1. Rehabilitation Clinics

Chapter 3. Reimbursement

§301. ~~Rehabilitation (Ages 3 and Over)~~Reimbursement Methodology

A. ~~The payment schedule for services rendered to Medicaid-eligible recipients in rehabilitation clinics shall be based on hourly rates as follows.~~The Medicaid Program provides reimbursement for physical therapy, occupational therapy and speech therapy rendered in rehabilitation clinics to recipients under the age of 21.

PROCEDURE	RATE
Physical therapy	\$40
Occupational therapy	\$40

Speech therapy	\$30
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B. ...

~~C. — D. — Reserved.~~

C. Effective for dates of service on or after February 13, 2014, reimbursement for physical and occupational therapy services shall be 85 percent of the 2013 Medicare published rate. There shall be no automatic enhanced rate adjustment for physical and occupational therapy services.

D. Speech/language therapy services shall continue to be reimbursed at the flat fee in place as of February 13, 2014 and in accordance with the Medicaid published fee schedule for speech/language therapy services provided to recipients under the age of 21 in rehabilitation clinics.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 36:254 and Title XIX of the Social Security Act.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Office of the Secretary, Bureau of Health Services financing, LR 30:1021 (May 2004), amended by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Bureau of Health Services Financing, LR 40:1533 (August 2014), LR 41:

§303. Reimbursement (Ages 0 up to 3)

~~A. — Effective for dates of service on or after November 2 2003, the reimbursement rates for rehabilitation~~

~~services provided to Medicaid recipients up to the age of 3, regardless of the type of provider performing the services, will be as follows.~~ Repealed.

Procedure	Rate
Group sp/lang/hear therapy 1/2 hour	\$ 26
Speech group therapy add 15 minutes	\$ 13
Group sp/lang/hear therapy 1 hour	\$ 51
Initial sp/lang evaluation	\$ 70
Initial hearing evaluation	\$ 70
Sp/lang/hear therapy 30 minutes	\$ 26
Sp/lang/hear therapy 45 minutes	\$ 39
Sp/lang/hear therapy 60 minutes	\$ 52
Visit w/procedure(s) 30 minutes	\$ 34
Visit w/procedure(s) 45 minutes	\$ 51
Visit w/procedure(s) 60 minutes	\$ 68
Visit w/procedure(s) 75 minutes	\$ 85
Visit w/procedure(s) 90 minutes	\$102
Ctr visit one/more modal/proc 15 minutes	\$ 17
Procedures and modalities 60 minutes	\$ 68
Pt and rehab evaluation	\$ 75
Initial ot evaluation	\$ 70
Ot 30 minutes	\$ 26
Ot 45 minutes	\$ 39

0t 60 minutes	\$ 52

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 36:254 and Title XIX of the Social Security Act.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Office of the Secretary, Bureau of Health Services Financing, LR 30:1034 (May 2004), repealed by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Bureau of Health Services Financing, LR 41:

In compliance with Act 1183 of the 1999 Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature, the impact of this proposed Rule on the family has been considered. It is anticipated that this proposed Rule will have no impact on family functioning, stability and autonomy as described in R.S. 49:972.

In compliance with Act 854 of the 2012 Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature, the poverty impact of this proposed Rule has been considered. It is anticipated that this proposed Rule will have no impact on child, individual, or family poverty in relation to individual or community asset development as described in R.S. 49:973.

In compliance with House Concurrent Resolution 170 of the 2014 Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature, the provider impact of this proposed Rule has been considered.

It is anticipated that this proposed Rule will have no impact on the staffing level requirements or qualifications required to provide the same level of service, and may reduce the total direct and indirect cost to the provider to provide the same level of service and enhance the provider's ability to provide the same level of service since this proposed Rule increases the payment to providers for the same services they already render.

Interested persons may submit written comments to J. Ruth Kennedy, Bureau of Health Services Financing, P.O. Box 91030, Baton Rouge, LA 70821-9030 or by email to MedicaidPolicy@la.gov. Ms. Kennedy is responsible for responding to inquiries regarding this proposed Rule. A public hearing on this proposed Rule is scheduled for Thursday, February 26, 2015 at 9:30 a.m. in Room 118, Bienville Building, 628 North Fourth Street, Baton Rouge, LA. At that time all interested persons will be afforded an opportunity to submit data, views or arguments either orally or in writing. The deadline for receipt of all written comments is 4:30 p.m. on the next business day following the public hearing.

Kathy H. Kliebert

Secretary