

## NOTICE OF INTENT

Department of Health  
Bureau of Health Services Financing

Disproportionate Share Hospital Payments  
Major Medical Centers  
Specialized Burn Care Units  
(LAC 50:V.2717)

The Department of Health, Bureau of Health Services Financing proposes to adopt LAC 50:V.2717 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, Bureau of Health Services Financing determined that it was necessary to promulgate an Emergency Rule to amend the provisions governing disproportionate share hospital (DSH) payments for major medical centers in order to establish qualification criteria, and a DSH payment methodology, for large private hospitals located in the southwestern area of the state (LDH Region 4) which provide specialized intensive care burn units (*Louisiana Register*, Volume 44, Number 7). This proposed Rule is being promulgated to continue the provisions of the June 30, 2018 Emergency Rule.

## TITLE 50

PUBLIC HEALTH-MEDICAL ASSISTANCE  
Part V. Hospital Services  
Subpart 3. Disproportionate Share Hospital Payments

## **Chapter 27. Qualifying Hospitals**

### **§2717. Major Medical Centers with Specialized Burn Care Units Located in the Southwestern Area of the State**

A. Effective for dates of service on or after June 30, 2018, hospitals qualifying for payments as major medical centers located in the southwestern area of the state shall meet the following criteria:

1. be a private, non-rural hospital located in Department of Health administrative region 4;
2. have at least 175 inpatient beds as reported on the Medicare/Medicaid cost report, Worksheet S-3, column 2, lines 1-18, for the state fiscal year ending June 30, 2017. For qualification purposes, inpatient beds shall exclude nursery and Medicare-designated distinct part psychiatric unit beds;
3. have a burn intensive care unit that is reported on the Medicare/Medicaid cost report, Worksheet S-3, line 10, columns 1-8, for the state fiscal year ending June 30, 2017;
4. does not qualify as a Louisiana low-income academic hospital under the provisions of §3101; and
5. does not qualify as a party to a low income and needy care collaboration agreement with the Department of Health under the provisions of §2713.

B. Payment Methodology. Effective for dates of service on or after June 30, 2018, each qualifying hospital shall be paid a

DSH adjustment payment which is the pro rata amount calculated by dividing their hospital specific allowable uncompensated care costs by the total allowable uncompensated care costs for all hospitals qualifying under this category and multiplying by the funding appropriated by the Louisiana Legislature in the applicable state fiscal year for this category of hospitals.

1. Costs, patient specific data and documentation that qualifying criteria is met shall be submitted in a format specified by the department.

2. Costs and lengths of stay shall be reviewed by the department for reasonableness before payments are made.

3. Aggregate DSH payments for hospitals that receive payment from this category, and any other DSH category, shall not exceed the hospital's specific DSH limit. If payments calculated under this methodology would cause a hospital's aggregate DSH payment to exceed the limit, the payment from this category shall be capped at the hospital's specific DSH limit.

4. A pro rata decrease, necessitated by conditions specified in §2501.B.1 above for hospitals described in this Section, will be calculated based on the ratio determined by dividing the hospital's uncompensated costs by the uncompensated costs for all of the qualifying hospitals described in this Section, then multiplying by the amount of disproportionate

share payments calculated in excess of the federal DSH allotment.

a. Additional payments shall only be made after finalization of the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services' (CMS) mandated DSH audit for the state fiscal year.

b. Payments shall be limited to the aggregate amount recouped from the qualifying hospitals described in this Section, based on the reported DSH audit results.

c. If the hospitals' aggregate amount of underpayments reported per the audit results exceeds the aggregate amount overpaid, the payment redistribution to underpaid hospitals shall be paid on a pro rata basis calculated using each hospital's amount underpaid, divided by the sum of underpayments for all of the hospitals described in this Section.

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, Bureau of Health Services Financing, LR 44:

Implementation of the provisions of this Rule may be contingent upon the approval of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), if it is determined that submission to CMS for review and approval is required.

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 a positive impact on family functioning, stability and autonomy as described in R.S. 49:972 as it will ensure that Medicaid recipients in southwest Louisiana have continued access to specialized intensive care treatment for severe burns.

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 a positive impact on child, individual, or family poverty in relation to individual or community asset development as described in R.S. 49:973 as these payments will ensure provider participation and reduce the financial burden on families in need of specialized intensive care treatment for burn victims.

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. This proposed Rule may also 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 Jen Steele, Bureau of Health Services Financing, P.O. Box 91030, Baton Rouge, LA 70821-9030 or by email to [MedicaidPolicy@la.gov](mailto:MedicaidPolicy@la.gov). Ms. Steele is responsible for responding to inquiries regarding this proposed Rule. A public hearing on this proposed Rule is scheduled for Wednesday, August 29, 2018 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.

Rebekah E. Gee MD, MPH

Secretary