

ND Medicaid Program

The benefits for ND Medicaid Expansion, as required by the Affordable Care Act and section 1937 of the Social Security Act, are provided through an Alternative Benefit Plan (ABP). Effective for dates of service on or after January 1, 2020, ND Medicaid will be submitting a state plan amendment which will update the administration and management of pharmacy benefits from the Managed Care Organization to Traditional Medicaid fee-for-service. To assure compliance with 42 CFR 440.345, ND Medicaid compared the pharmacy benefits available under the ABP to those available under Traditional Medicaid fee-for-service. The ABP benefits include Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic and Treatment (EPSDT) services for those enrolled with ND Medicaid Expansion who are under age 21 and are consistent with the current ND Medicaid state plan regarding the delivery of these services. All Medicaid Expansion enrollees, including those under 21, have received notification of the transition of the pharmacy benefit. Medicaid expenditures for pharmacy services for the Medicaid Expansion population are expected to decrease \$1 million for a 12-month period.

Effective for dates of service on or after January 1, 2020, and consistent with approved state plan language, ND Medicaid will update the payment rate for lodging to the amount established for the month of January 2020 by the General Services Administration. Medicaid expenditures for these services are expected to increase \$1,000 for a 12-month period.

Effective for dates of service on or after January 1, 2020, North Dakota Medicaid will be providing a two percent inflationary increase for all Nursing Facility services and the Operating Margin will be increased to 4.40%. In addition to the two percent inflationary increase and consistent with Medicaid State Plan Authority, rates for Medicaid-eligible individuals residing in nursing facilities will be adjusted, based on cost reports submitted by the facilities within the current rate methodology. Medicaid expenditures for these services are expected to increase \$10 million for a 12-month period.

Effective for date of service on or after January 1, 2020, North Dakota Medicaid will be providing a two percent inflationary increase for all Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facility services. In addition to the two-percent inflationary increase and consistent with Medicaid State Plan Authority, rates for Medicaid-eligible individuals residing in in-state psychiatric residential treatment facilities will be adjusted, based on cost reports submitted by the facilities within the current rate methodology. Medicaid expenditures for these services are expected to increase \$500,000 for a 12-month period.

Effective for dates of service on or after January 1, 2020, ND Medicaid will cover the Human Papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine for individuals up to age 46. Medicaid expenditures for these services are expected to increase \$15,000 for a 12-month period.

Effective for dates of services on or after January 1, 2020 children enrolled in North Dakota's Children's Health Insurance Program known as Healthy Steps (operated as a managed care organization) will transition to traditional Medicaid coverage. Children in this group will be required to select a Primary Care Provider as part of ND Medicaid's Primary Care Case Management program. Pursuant to 42 CFR 440.345, benefits for these children will include Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic and Treatment (EPSDT) services consistent with the current ND Medicaid state plan. As a result of the transition of the children from Healthy Steps to traditional Medicaid, the Medicaid expenditures for a 12-month period are expected to decrease \$2.8 million which includes an expected increase of \$50,000 for Primary Care Provider payments.

ND Medicaid follows the National Correct Coding Initiative (NCCI) Edits. These edits were developed by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) based on coding conventions defined in the American Medical Association's Correct Procedure Terminology Manual, national and local policies and edits, coding guidelines developed by national societies, analysis of standard medical and surgical practices, and a review of current coding practices. CMS annually updates the National Correct Coding Initiative Coding Policy Manual.

Fee schedules for services are on the Department of Human Services website at <http://www.nd.gov/dhs/services/medicalserv/medicaid/provider-fee-schedules.html>.

Comments can be sent to and viewed at: Medical Services Division Room 309, ND Department of Human Services, 600 E Boulevard Ave Dept 325, Bismarck, ND 58505-0250. Questions may be directed to the local county social service office, or individuals may contact the ND Medicaid Program at 1-800-755-2604.

Date posted: Dec. 20, 2019