



STATE OF DELAWARE
STATE COUNCIL FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES
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MEMORANDUM

DATE: January 30, 2015

TO: Ms. Sharon L. Summers, DMMA
Planning & Policy Development Unit

FROM: Daniese McMullin-Powell, Chairperson
State Council for Persons with Disabilities

RE: 18 DE Reg. 509 (DMMA Prop. Medicaid Inpatient Rehabilitation Hospital Reg.)

The State Council for Persons with Disabilities (SCPD) has reviewed the Department of Health and Social Services/Division of Medicaid and Medical Assistance's (DMMA's) proposal to amend the Medicaid State Plan in the context of Freestanding Inpatient Hospital Services. The proposed regulation was published as 18 DE Reg. 509 in the January 1, 2015 issue of the Register of Regulations.

As background, the Division published a notice of proposed amendment to the standards governing reimbursement methodology for freestanding inpatient rehabilitation hospitals in November, 2014. It is now publishing a conforming Medicaid State Plan amendment in the Register with a December 1, 2014 effective date. The standards would apply to patients discharged on or after December 1, 2014. DMMA is adopting the Medicare payment standards and rates. The Medicare system classifies patients into distinct groups based on their clinical characteristics and what each patient's expected resource needs will be. The Division notes that "Medicare rates are updated annually to reflect changes in local wages using the hospital wage index."

SCPD endorses the proposed regulation, but notes that covered facilities may benefit from using a similar reimbursement system for both Medicaid and Medicare patients.

Thank you for your consideration and please contact SCPD if you have any questions or comments regarding our position or comments on the proposed regulation.

cc: Mr. Stephen Groff
Mr. Brian Hartman, Esq.
Governor's Advisory Council for Exceptional Citizens
Developmental Disabilities Council