

## **DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES**

### **Notice of Proposed Medicaid State Plan Amendment (SPA)**

#### **HIPAA Billing Code and Reimbursement Update – Audiology Services (SPA 16-012)**

The State of Connecticut Department of Social Services (DSS) proposes to submit the following Medicaid State Plan Amendment (SPA) to the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS).

#### Changes to Medicaid State Plan

Effective on or after January 1, 2016, SPA 16-012 will amend Attachment 4.19-B of the Medicaid State Plan to incorporate the 2016 Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System (HCPCS) changes (additions, deletions and description changes) to the Independent Audiology and Speech and Language Pathology fee schedule. Codes that are being added are being priced using a comparable methodology to other codes in the same or similar category. The Department is making these changes to remain compliant with the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA).

In addition, the methodology for computing the rates for the technical (TC) and professional (26) components for select audiology codes is being revised to the same methodology for other provider types. The revised methodology will be 57.5% of the 2016 Medicare rate. This change is designed to be cost neutral because there has been no recorded utilization of the components of any HCPCS codes for audiology during calendar year 2015.

#### Fiscal Information

Based on available information, DSS does not anticipate that the HIPAA compliant update will change to annual aggregate expenditures. At this time, the fiscal impact of computing the rates for the technical and professional components as described above has not yet been determined. However, it is not expected to change annual aggregate expenditures because of the lack of utilization of these components of these audiology codes.

#### Information on Obtaining SPA Language and Submission of Comments

In accordance with federal Medicaid requirements, upon request, DSS will provide copies of the proposed SPA. Copies of the proposed SPA may also be obtained at any DSS regional office and on the DSS website: <http://www.ct.gov/dss>. Go to “Publications” and then “Updates”.

Written, phone, and email requests should be sent to Ginny Mahoney, Department of Social Services, Medical Policy Unit, 55 Farmington Avenue, 9th Floor, Hartford, CT 06105 (Phone: 860-424-5145, Fax: 860-424-5799, Email: [ginny.mahoney@ct.gov](mailto:ginny.mahoney@ct.gov)). Please reference “SPA 16-012: HIPAA Billing Code and Reimbursement Update – Audiology”.

Members of the public may also send DSS written comments about this SPA. Written comments must be received at the above contact information no later than January 13, 2016.

STATE PLAN UNDER TITLE XIX OF THE SOCIAL SECURITY ACT

State Connecticut

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- (10) Dental services – Fixed fee schedule. The agency’s rates were set as of January 1, 2016 and are effective for services on or after that date. Rates are the same for private and governmental providers and are published at [www.ctdssmap.com](http://www.ctdssmap.com). From this page, go to “Provider” then to “Provider Fee Schedule Download”
- (11) Except as otherwise noted in the plan, state developed fee schedule rates are the same for both governmental and private providers of independent therapies, including physical therapy and related services, occupational therapy and audiology and speech pathology services and the fee schedule is published at [www.ctdssmap.com](http://www.ctdssmap.com). From this page, go to “Provider” then to “Provider Fee Schedule Download”.
- a) Physical therapy and related services – Fixed fee schedule. Rates were set as of January 1, 2012 and effective for services on or after that date.
  - b) Occupational therapy – Fixed fee schedule. Rates were set as of January 1, 2012 and are effective for services on or after that date. Occupational therapists will be reimbursed according to the fee schedule for physical therapists.
  - c) Audiology and speech pathology services – Fixed fee schedule. Rates were set as of January 1, 2016 and effective for services on or after that date.

TN # 16-012

Approval Date \_\_\_\_\_

Effective Date 1/01/2016

Supersedes

TN # 14-038 (Please note this page also overlaps with SPA 16-011)