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State/Territory Name: Washington

State Plan Amendment (SPA) #: 18-0004

This file contains the following documents in the order listed:

- 1) Approval Letter
- 2) CMS 179 Form
- 3) Approved SPA Pages

OS Notification

State/Title/Plan Number: Washington 18-0004

Type of Action: Approval

Effective Date of SPA: April 1, 2018

Required Date for State Notification: April 12, 2018 (90th-day first clock)

Fiscal Impact: FY 2018 – \$0 FFP FY 2019 – \$0 FFP

Number of Services Provided by Enhanced Coverage, Benefits or Retained Enrollment: None

Number of Potential Newly Eligible People: None

or

Eligibility Simplification: No

Provider Payment Increase or Decrease: Neither

Delivery System Innovation: No

Number of People Losing Medicaid Eligibility: None

Reduces Benefits: No

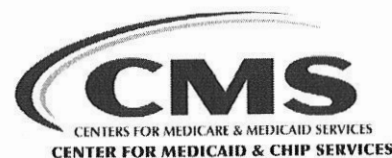
Detail: This SPA updates the APR-DRG classification software for dates of admission on or after April 1, 2018 from version 31 to version 33.

Other Considerations: This SPA was vetted by the NIRT through E-mail correspondence from February 1-5, 2018.

Section 5006(e) Tribal Consultation: The state complied with their approved consultation protocol by release of a notice to interested tribal parties and representatives on November 2, 2017. No responses were received related to the consultation.

Regional Office: Tom Couch - RO NIRT - (208) 861-9838

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
7500 Security Boulevard, Mail Stop S2-26-12
Baltimore, MD 21244-1850



Financial Management Group

FEB 08 2018

MaryAnne Lindeblad, Medicaid Director
Health Care Authority
Post Office Box 42716
Olympia, Washington 98504-2716

RE: WA State Plan Amendment (SPA) Transmittal Number #18-0004 – Approval

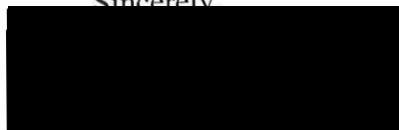
Dear Ms. Lindeblad:

We have reviewed the proposed amendment to Attachment 4.19-A of your Medicaid State plan submitted under transmittal number (TN) 18-0004. This SPA updates the APR-DRG classification software for dates of admission on or after April 1, 2018 from version 31 to version 33.

We conducted our review of your submittal according to the statutory requirements at sections 1902(a)(2), 1902(a)(13), 1902(a)(30), 1903(a), and 1923 of the Social Security Act and the implementing Federal regulations at 42 CFR 447 Subpart C. We are pleased to inform you that Medicaid State plan amendment 18-0004 is approved effective as of April 1, 2018. For your files, we are enclosing the HCFA-179 transmittal form and the amended plan pages.

If you have any questions concerning this state plan amendment, please contact Tom Couch, CMS' RO NIRT Representative at 208-861-9838 or Thomas.Couch@cms.hhs.gov.

Sincerely,



Kristin Fan
Director

Enclosures

**TRANSMITTAL AND NOTICE OF APPROVAL OF
STATE PLAN MATERIAL**

1. TRANSMITTAL NUMBER:
18-0004

2. STATE
Washington

FOR: HEALTH CARE FINANCING ADMINISTRATION

3. PROGRAM IDENTIFICATION: TITLE XIX OF THE
SOCIAL SECURITY ACT (MEDICAID)

TO: REGIONAL ADMINISTRATOR
HEALTH CARE FINANCING ADMINISTRATION
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

4. PROPOSED EFFECTIVE DATE
April 1, 2018

5. TYPE OF PLAN MATERIAL (Check One):

- NEW STATE PLAN
 AMENDMENT TO BE CONSIDERED AS NEW PLAN
 AMENDMENT

COMPLETE BLOCKS 6 THRU 10 IF THIS IS AN AMENDMENT (Separate Transmittal for each amendment)

6. FEDERAL STATUTE/REGULATION CITATION:
1902(a) of the Social Security Act

7. FEDERAL BUDGET IMPACT:
a. FFY 2018 \$0
b. FFY 2019 \$0

8. PAGE NUMBER OF THE PLAN SECTION OR ATTACHMENT:
Attachment 4.19-A Part 1 pages 6, 13, 18

9. PAGE NUMBER OF THE SUPERSEDED PLAN SECTION
OR ATTACHMENT (If Applicable):
Attachment 4.19-A Part 1 pages 6, ~~13~~, 13, 18 (P&I)

10. SUBJECT OF AMENDMENT:
APR-DRG Grouper Version 33

11. GOVERNOR'S REVIEW (Check One):

- GOVERNOR'S OFFICE REPORTED NO COMMENT
 OTHER, AS SPECIFIED: Exempt
- COMMENTS OF GOVERNOR'S OFFICE ENCLOSED
 NO REPLY RECEIVED WITHIN 45 DAYS OF SUBMITTAL

12. SIGNATURE OF STATE AGENCY OFFICIAL:

[Redacted Signature]

13. TYPED NAME:
MaryAnne Lindeblad

14. TITLE:
Director

15. DATE SUBMITTED: 1-12-18

16. RETURN TO:

Ann Myers
Office of Rules and Publications
Division of Legal Services
Health Care Authority
626 8th Ave SE MS: 42716
Olympia, WA 98504-2716

FOR REGIONAL OFFICE USE ONLY

17. DATE RECEIVED: 1/12/18

18. DATE APPROVED: FEB 08 2018

PLAN APPROVED - ONE COPY ATTACHED

19. EFFECTIVE DATE OF APPROVED MATERIAL:
APR 01 2018

20. SIGNATURE OF REGIONAL OFFICIAL:

[Redacted Signature]

21. TYPED NAME: Kristin FAN

22. TITLE: Director, FMC

23. REMARKS:
1/19/18: State authorized P&I change to box 9

STATE PLAN UNDER TITLE XIX OF THE SOCIAL SECURITY ACT

State WASHINGTON

**METHODS AND STANDARDS FOR ESTABLISHING
PAYMENT RATES FOR INPATIENT HOSPITAL SERVICES (cont.)**

B. DEFINITIONS (cont.)

Diagnosis Related Groups (DRGs)

DRG means the patient classification system which classifies patients into groups based on the International Classification of Diseases, the presence of a surgical procedure, patient age, presence or absence of significant comorbidities or complications, and other relevant criteria.

The DRGs categorize patients into clinically coherent and homogenous groups with respect to resource use. The Washington State Medicaid program uses the All Patient Diagnosis Related Group (AP-DRG) classification software (Grouper) to classify claims into a DRG classification prior to July 1, 2014.

For dates of admission before August 1, 2007, the Agency uses version 14.1 of the AP-DRG Grouper for this purpose, and has established relative weights for 400 valid DRGs for its DRG payment system. There are an additional 168 DRGs that are not used and another 241 DRGs with no weights assigned. Of the 241 DRGs with no weights, two are used in identifying ungroupable claims under DRG 469 and 470.

The remainder of the 241 DRGs is exempt from the DRG payment method. The All Patient Grouper, Version 14.1 has a total of 809 DRGs.

For dates of admission between August 1, 2007, and June 30, 2014, the Agency uses version 23.0 of the AP-DRG Grouper to classify claims into a DRG classification, and has established relative weights for 423 DRG classifications used in the DRG payment system. Of the remaining DRG classifications, two are used to identify ungroupable claims under DRG 469 and 470. The remainder of the DRG classifications in version 23.0 of the AP-DRG Grouper are either not used by the grouper software, or are used by the Agency to pay claims using a non-DRG payment method.

For dates of admission between July 1, 2014, and March 31, 2018, the Agency uses version 31.0 of the All Patient Refined Diagnosis Related Group (APR-DRG) classification software to assign DRGs and Severity of Illness (SOI) indicators.

For dates of admission on and after April 1, 2018, the Agency uses version 33.0 of the All Patient Refined Diagnosis-Related Group (APR-DRG) classification software to assign DRGs and Severity of Illness (SOI) indicators.

Emergency Services

Emergency services means services provided for care required after the sudden onset of a medical condition manifesting itself by acute symptoms of sufficient severity (including severe pain) that the absence of immediate medical attention could reasonably be expected to result in: placing the client's health in serious jeopardy; serious impairment to bodily functions; or serious dysfunction of any bodily organ or part. Inpatient maternity services are treated as emergency services.

STATE PLAN UNDER TITLE XIX OF THE SOCIAL SECURITY ACT

State WASHINGTON**METHODS AND STANDARDS FOR ESTABLISHING
PAYMENT RATES FOR INPATIENT HOSPITAL SERVICES (cont)**

C. GENERAL REIMBURSEMENT POLICIES (cont.)

2. DRG Relative Weights (cont.)

The relative weights are standardized to an overall case-mix index of 1.0 based on claims used during the recalibration process, but are not standardized to a case-mix index of 1.0 regarding the previous relative weights used.

For dates of admission between August 1, 2007, and June 30, 2014, Washington State Medicaid recalibrated the relative weights using the All Patient DRG (AP-DRG) grouper version 23.0 classification software. The relative weights are cost-based and developed using estimated costs of in-state hospitals' Medicaid fee-for-service claims and Washington State Department of Health's (CHARS) claims representative of Healthy Options managed care from SFY 2004 and 2005.

The AP-DRG classification is unstable if the number of claims within the DRG classification is less than the calculated N for the sample size. The AP-DRG classification is also considered low-volume if number of claims within the classification is less than 10 claims in total for the two-year period.

For dates of admission between July 1, 2014, and March 31, 2018, the Agency uses the APR-DRG version 31.0 standard national relative weights established by the 3M Corporation. Due to the usage of national relative weights the Agency does not pay per-diem for any DRG classifications previously considered unstable.

For dates of admission on and after April 1, 2018, the Agency uses the APR-DRG version 33.0 standard national relative weights established by the 3M Corporation. Due to the usage of national relative weights, the Agency does not pay per-diem for any DRG classifications previously considered unstable.

3. High Outlier Payments

High-outliers are cases with extraordinarily high costs when compared to other cases in the same DRG. The reimbursement system includes an outlier payment for these cases.

For dates of admission between August 1, 2007, and June 30, 2014, the Agency allows a high outlier payment for claims that meet high outlier qualifying criteria. To qualify, the claim's estimated cost must exceed a fixed outlier cost threshold of \$50,000 and an outlier threshold factor (a multiplier times the inlier). Only DRG and specific per diem claims (medical, surgical, burn and neonatal) qualify for outlier payments. If a claim qualifies, the outlier payment is the costs in excess of the outlier factor threshold multiplied by an outlier adjustment factor. Total payment is outlier plus inlier. (The inlier is the hospital's specific DRG rate times the relative weight or for per diem claims, the hospital's specific per diem rate times allowed days).

- a) Estimated Cost. The cost of a claim is estimated by multiplying the hospital's Ratio of Cost to Charges (RCC) by the billed charges.
- b) Outlier Threshold Factor. The inlier is multiplied by a date specific factor to determine the threshold that must be met in order to qualify for an outlier payment. This factor is referred to as the outlier threshold factor. For dates of admission August 1, 2007, through July 31

STATE PLAN UNDER TITLE XIX OF THE SOCIAL SECURITY ACT

State WASHINGTON**METHODS AND STANDARDS FOR ESTABLISHING
PAYMENT RATES FOR INPATIENT HOSPITAL SERVICES (cont.)**

C. GENERAL REIMBURSEMENT POLICIES (cont.)

8. DRG Exempt Services

a. Unstable, Low Volume, and Specialty Services DRG Classifications

For dates of admission before August 1, 2007, neonatal services, DRGs 620 and 629 (normal newborns) are reimbursed by DRG payment under the DRG payment method, but not under the RCC, "full cost" or cost settlement payment methods. DRGs 602-619, 621-624, 626-628, 630, 635, 637-641 are exempt from the DRG payment methods, and are reimbursed under the RCC, "full cost", or cost settlement payment method.

For dates of admission on and after August 1, 2007, the claims that classified to DRG classifications that have unstable DRG relative weights or are considered low volume DRG classifications, are exempt from the DRG payment methods, and are reimbursed under the per diem payment method unless the hospital is participating in the "full cost", or cost settlement payment method.

Specialty services, defined as psychiatric, rehabilitation, detoxification and Chemical Using Pregnant program services, are reimbursed under the per diem payment method unless the hospital is participating in the "full cost", or cost settlement payment method.

For dates of admission between July 1, 2014, and March 31, 2018, the Agency uses the APR-DRG version 31.0 standard national relative weights established by the 3M Corporation. Due to the usage of national relative weights the Agency does not pay per diem for any DRG classifications previously considered unstable.

For dates of admission on and after April 1, 2018, the Agency uses the APR-DRG version 33.0 standard national relative weights established by the 3M Corporation. Due to the usage of national relative weights the Agency does not pay per diem for any DRG classifications previously considered unstable.

b. AIDS-Related Services

For dates of admission before August 1, 2007, AIDS-related inpatient services are exempt from DRG payment methods, and are reimbursed under the RCC method for those cases with a reported diagnosis of Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (AIDS), AIDS-Related Complex (ARC), and other Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) infections.

For dates of admission on and after August 1, 2007, AIDS-related inpatient services are not exempted from the DRG payment method and are paid based on the claim data matched to the criteria for the payment methods described in this attachment.