



Iowa Department of Human Services

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Governor

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Director

INFORMATIONAL LETTER NO.1637-MC

DATE: April 7, 2016

TO: Iowa Medicaid Hospice Agencies and Managed Care Organizations (MCOs)

FROM: Iowa Department of Human Services (DHS), Iowa Medicaid Enterprise (IME)

RE: Daily Nursing Facility Room and Board Reimbursement

EFFECTIVE: April 1, 2016

The IA Health Link managed care program began on April 1, 2016. This letter is to provide clarification regarding the reimbursement of nursing facility room and board, also referred to as pass-through, for hospice providers.

Pursuant to 1902(a)(13)(B) of the Social Security Act (Act) and 441 IAC 79.1(14), daily nursing facility reimbursement to hospice providers is 95 percent of the Medicaid rate for the nursing facility. In addition, 1905(o)(3) of the Act requires the payment to be made to the hospice provider and cannot be made directly to the nursing facility.

Effective April 1, 2016, MCOs are responsible for reimbursing providers for the covered services of enrolled members, including hospice services. Each MCO must agree to reimburse providers at a rate that is equal to or exceeds the defined Iowa Medicaid rate floor, or as otherwise mutually agreed upon by the contractor and the provider. The MCOs will continue to pay the nursing facility room and board as a pass-through payment to the hospice provider just as the IME pays the payment today.

Please refer to each MCO's provider manuals and leverage the MCO provider service unit for additional information related to the operational processes related to hospice services. Provider manuals can be found at the following links.

Amerigroup Iowa, Inc.:

http://providers.amerigroup.com/ProviderDocuments/IAIA_ProviderManual.pdf

AmeriHealth Caritas Iowa, Inc.: <http://www.amerihealthcaritasia.com/pdf/provider/provider-manual.pdf>

UnitedHealthcare Plan of the River Valley, Inc.:

http://www.uhccommunityplan.com/content/dam/communityplan/healthcareprofessionals/provider-admin-manual/IA_UnitedHealthcare_Provider_Manual.pdf

The MCO Provider call centers can be reached through the following:

Managed Care Organization	Contact and Phone Number
Amerigroup Iowa, Inc.	Email: iowamedicaid@amerigroup.com Phone: 1-855-789-7989
AmeriHealth Caritas Iowa, Inc.	Email: iowaProviderNetwork@amerihealthcaritas.com Phone: 1-855-287-7855
UnitedHealthcare Plan of the River Valley, Inc.	Email: iowaCommunityNetwork@uhc.com Phone: 1-888-650-3462

For additional information on the IA Health Link, please visit the DHS [Medicaid Modernization](#)¹ web page or call the IME Provider Services Unit at 1-800-338-7909. Representatives are available Monday-Friday, 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

¹ <http://dhs.iowa.gov/ime/about/initiatives/MedicaidModernization>