



Public Notice

30 Day Hospital Readmission Policy - Exclusion for Planned Procedures

Posted August 17, 2018

The Iowa Department of Human Services (DHS), pursuant to the requirements outlined in 42 C.F.R. §447.205 and §1902(a)(13)(A) of the Social Security Act, hereby gives notice of the following proposed action regarding its methods and standards for the 30 day hospital readmission policy under the State Plan under Title XIX of the Social Security Act Medical Assistance Program (Medicaid).

This proposed amendment revises the current inpatient hospital 30 day readmission policy to exclude readmissions that are planned for repetitive or staged treatments and to clarify that the policy does not apply to critical access hospitals.

This amendment will more closely align with federal Medicare standards and policies and will result in lower cost savings to the Medical Assistance Program as compared to cost savings under the current readmission policy. The change in policy will result in a smaller number of inpatient hospital readmissions for the same condition based on the exclusion of planned readmissions for repetitive or staged treatments.

The proposed amendment will be effective for inpatient hospital discharges on or after December 1, 2018.

Estimated Fiscal Impact: The estimated increase in annual aggregate expenditures for State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2019:

Total Dollars: \$1,500,000
Federal Dollars: \$1,023,750
State Dollars: \$476,250

Public Review and Comments: A copy of this SPA is posted on the DHS website at the following link: <https://dhs.iowa.gov/public-notices/30-day-hospital-readmission-policy>. The SPA is also available for public review at each local DHS office.

Written comments may be sent to Jennifer Steenblock, Federal Compliance Officer, Iowa Medicaid Enterprise, 100 Army Post Road, Des Moines, IA 50315 or may be emailed to jsteenb@dhs.state.ia.us. Please indicate SPA #IA-18-021 in the subject line of the email. Written and e-mailed comments must be received no later than 30 days from the posted date of this notice by 4:30 p.m.