

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
JFK Federal Building, Government Center
Room 2275
Boston, Massachusetts 02203



Division of Medicaid and Children's Health Operations / Boston Regional Office

July 18, 2018

Roderick Bremby, Commissioner
Department of Social Services
55 Farmington Avenue
Hartford, CT 06105

Dear Commissioner Bremby:

We are pleased to enclose via email a copy of approved Connecticut State Plan Amendment (SPA) No. 18-016, submitted to my office on March 27, 2018 and approved on June 21, 2018. This SPA amends Attachment 4.19-B of the Medicaid State Plan in order to make various changes to the reimbursement of chemical maintenance clinics including: pro-rating the weekly rate to account for weeks in which services are provided on fewer than seven days in the week, specifying in detail the services that are included in the rate, and providing for specific types of documentation regarding the services that are provided.

The SPA also removes references to specific provider locations, establishes provisions for merged clinics and newly licensed clinics, and authorizes payment for take-home doses in compliance with federal guidelines

This SPA has been approved effective February 1, 2018, as requested by the State.

Changes are reflected in the following sections of your approved State Plan:

- Attachment 4.19B, Page 1(d)
- Attachment 4.19B, Page 1(d)i
- Attachment 4.19B, Page 1(d)ii

If you have any questions regarding this matter you may contact Marie DiMartino (617) 565-9157 or by e-mail at Marie.DiMartino@cms.hhs.gov

Sincerely,

Richard R. McGreal
Associate Regional Administrator

STATE PLAN UNDER TITLE XIX OF THE SOCIAL SECURITY ACT**State Connecticut**

(g) Chemical Maintenance Clinics.

1. Chemical maintenance services shall be reimbursed based on a provider-specific weekly rate listed below. Providers shall be certified and licensed by SAMHSA (Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration) and the Connecticut Department of Public Health and shall comply with all applicable federal and state requirements, including, but not limited to, requirements specific to the provision of chemical maintenance services.
2. New chemical maintenance providers licensed by the Department of Public Health shall receive the weighted statewide rate as listed below. Any existing provider that opens an additional licensed location shall receive the provider's current rate as listed below.
3. When two or more current chemical maintenance providers merge to form a different legal entity, the data used to calculate the provider specific weekly rate of the original entities are totaled and used as the basis for determining a rate for the new entity. The same methodology will be used when one chemical maintenance provider purchases another chemical maintenance provider.
4. In order to qualify for chemical maintenance reimbursement, providers shall ensure all participants receive appropriate intake and/or annual physical exams. This requirement is a prerequisite to being able to bill for chemical maintenance services. Reimbursement for physical exams is a component of the weekly rate and shall not be reimbursed separately.
5. To receive payment of chemical maintenance services (including methadone dispensing) at the weekly rate, at least one unit of the following categories of service per day for seven days must have been provided: in-person medication administration, take-home medication doses or any in-person clinical service provided at the clinic that meets the billing code clinical and minimum time definitions for individual, group or family psychotherapy or any combination thereof. A provider may bill multiple weekly rates during an in-person dispensing visit in order to account for the dispensed take-home doses up to the limitations in federal requirements for take-home doses, provided that the total number of doses billed is no greater than the total number of days allocated to each weekly rate. For any week for which such a service is provided on fewer than seven days, the Department shall prorate the rate to pay only for the number of days in the week during which such a service was provided.

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6. The rate for chemical maintenance treatment includes all of the following: intake evaluation; initial physical examination; medication administration, including face-to-face medication administration or take-home medication; on-site drug use screening and monitoring; and all routine individual, group and family substance use disorder counseling services. Other services may be provided and paid for separately in accordance with the applicable reimbursement methodology for the service.

7. The provider shall perform or make arrangements for the provision of all routine drug use screening and monitoring, which is included in the weekly rate. The minimum frequency for in-house drug use testing is eight per year or as otherwise required under federal rules. Any laboratory work other than routine drug use screening may be provided by a laboratory other than the behavioral health clinic and such services are not included in the rate for chemical maintenance treatment. Such drug use testing services that are outside the weekly rate for chemical maintenance services that are conducted by a certified and Medicaid enrolled independent laboratory may be billed separately in accordance with section (3) of Attachment 4.19-B of the Medicaid State Plan. The chemical maintenance clinic provider shall include clinical documentation demonstrating the need for any external laboratory testing ordered or referred by the provider. The provider shall also include documentation in each member's medical records that appropriate medical personnel at the provider have reviewed and interpreted external laboratory tests and explain in the medical records how such interpretation of the tests has affected the member's plan of care.

8. The sources used by the Department to develop the provider-specific chemical maintenance weekly rate include, but are not limited to:
 - Annual Chemical Maintenance Provider cost reports
 - Medicaid claims data from the Medicaid management information system
 - Subject matter expertise with developing mental health payment models
 - Provider's budget forecasts and financial statements
 - Feedback from providers and other stakeholders.

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9. Chemical maintenance clinic providers shall be reimbursed based on the following provider-specific reimbursement schedule (and in accordance with the provisions detailed above):

CHEMICAL MAINTENANCE PROVIDER NAME	WEEKLY RATE FOR 7 DOSES
APT FOUNDATION INC	\$99.49
CHEMICAL ABUSE SERVICES AGENCY	\$86.18
COMMUNITY HEALTH RESOURCES, INC A/K/A COMMUNITY PREVENTION AND ADDICTION SVCS	\$97.13
COMMUNITY SUBSTANCE ABUSE CENTERS INC	\$96.27
CONNECTICUT COUNSELING CENTERS INC	\$91.10
HARTFORD DISPENSARY	\$75.80
LIBERATION PROGRAMS INC	\$85.96
NEW ERA REHABILITATION CENTER	\$87.02
REGIONAL NETWORK OF PROGRAMS	\$95.99
NEW CHEMICAL MAINTENANCE CLINICS (Newly licensed on or after February 1, 2018)	\$88.52

TN # 18-0016
Supersedes
TN # NEW

Approval Date 06/21/18 Effective Date 02-01-2018