

ForwardHealth **UPDATE**

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FORWARDHEALTH REIMBURSEMENT RATE INCREASES

This ForwardHealth Update announces reimbursement rate increases for certain services. These rate increases are effective for dates of service (DOS) on and after February 1, 2023.

Reimbursement Rate Increases Effective February 1, 2023

Effective for DOS on and after February 1, 2023, the maximum allowable fee schedule rates increased for the following services:

- The rates for ambulance services increased by 10 percent.
- The rates for behavioral treatment services increased by 8.7 percent.
- The rates for targeted case management services increased by 5.5 percent.
- The professional rates for select vasectomy services increased by 16 percent.

AFFECTED PROGRAMS

BadgerCare Plus, Medicaid

TO

Advanced Practice Nurse
Prescribers With Psychiatric
Specialty, Ambulance Providers,
Behavioral Treatment Providers,
Case Management Providers, Family
Planning Clinics, Hospital Providers,
Intensive In-Home Mental Health
and Substance Abuse Treatment
Services for Children Providers,
Licensed Midwives, Master's-
Level Psychotherapists, Nurse
Practitioners, Outpatient Mental
Health Clinics, Outpatient Substance
Abuse Clinics, Physician Assistants,
Physician Clinics, Physicians,
Prenatal Care Coordination
Providers, Psychologists, Qualified
Treatment Trainees, Substance
Abuse Counselors, HMOs and Other
Managed Care Programs



- The rates for services performed by licensed midwives are set to the Wisconsin Medicare rate.

The rates for outpatient mental health and outpatient substance use disorder (SUD) services, as well as the rates for prenatal care coordination (PNCC) services, also increased effective February 1, 2023, but they vary in percentage based on the services' impacted Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System and Current Procedural Terminology procedure codes:

- The rates for outpatient mental health and outpatient SUD services increased between 12 and 76 percent to align rates with comparable behavioral health services.
- The rates for PNCC services increased between 38 to 114 percent to establish general parity across similar benefits and with other states. The PNCC reimbursement limit amount also increased to \$1,938.40 per member, per pregnancy.

The fee schedules on the ForwardHealth Portal have been updated with the new reimbursement rates effective February 1, 2023. Providers may refer to the [interactive fee schedules](#) on the Portal for the increased rate(s) associated with the applicable procedure codes for the impacted services.

Claims with DOS on and after February 1, 2023, that were reimbursed at the previous rate for the services identified in this Update, or processed according to the previous PNCC reimbursement limit, will be automatically adjusted. Affected claims will be adjusted to the maximum amount allowed or the billed amount, whichever is less.

All other policy for ambulance services, behavioral treatment services, licensed midwives, outpatient mental health services, outpatient SUD services, PNCC services, targeted case management services, and vasectomy services, including coverage and prior authorization (PA), remains the same.

Providers are reminded to follow all current coverage and PA policy in the [ForwardHealth Online Handbook](#).

Documentation Retention

Providers are reminded that they must follow the documentation retention requirements per Wis. Admin. Code § [DHS 106.02\(9\)](#). Providers are required to produce or submit documentation, or both, to the Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS) upon request. Per Wis. Stat. § [49.45\(3\)\(f\)](#), providers of

NEVER MISS A MESSAGE

Stay current on policies and procedures by signing up for Portal text messages or email alerts! These alerts let providers know when there is a new secure Portal message. Go to the **Message Center** on the secure Portal and click **Notification Preferences**. Section 12.4 of the [ForwardHealth Provider Portal Account User Guide](#) has detailed instructions.

services shall maintain records as required by DHS for verification of provider claims for reimbursement. DHS may audit such records to verify actual provision of services and the appropriateness and accuracy of claims. DHS may deny or recoup payment for services that fail to meet these requirements. Refusal to produce documentation may result in denial of submitted claims, recoupment of paid claims, application of intermediate sanctions, or termination from the Medicaid program.

Information Regarding Managed Care Organizations

This Update applies to reimbursement rate increases for certain services that members receive on a fee-for-service basis and through BadgerCare Plus, Medicaid SSI, and other managed care programs. Providers directly reimbursed by Wisconsin Medicaid, BadgerCare Plus, Medicaid SSI HMO, and Care4Kids should contact their managed care organization (MCO) for more information about the impact of these rate increases on their contracted rates. For information about managed care implementation of the updated policy, contact the appropriate MCO. MCOs are required to provide at least the same benefits as those provided under fee-for-service arrangements.

IN THE KNOW

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The ForwardHealth Update is the first source of program policy and billing information for providers.

Wisconsin Medicaid, BadgerCare Plus, SeniorCare, and Wisconsin Chronic Disease Program are administered by the Division of Medicaid Services within the Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS). The Wisconsin AIDS Drug Assistance Program and the Wisconsin Well Woman Program are administered by the Division of Public Health within DHS.

For questions, call Provider Services at 800-947-9627 or visit our website at www.forwardhealth.wi.gov/.