

NOTICES OF CONNECTICUT STATE AGENCIES

Department of Social Services

Notice of Proposed Medicaid State Plan Amendment (SPA)

SPA 19-R: Updates to the Tuberculosis Limited Benefit Plan

The State of Connecticut Department of Social Services (DSS) proposes to submit the following Medicaid State Plan Amendment (SPA) to the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

Changes to Medicaid State Plan

Effective on or after May 1, 2019, SPA 19-R will amend Attachment 4.19-B of the Medicaid State Plan to revise the fee schedules for home health services and special services based on the 2019 HCPCS changes (additions, deletions and description changes) related to the tuberculosis limited benefit plan. These changes are necessary to remain compliant with the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA).

- HCPCS G0163 - Skilled Services By A Licensed Nurse (LPN or RN) for the observation and assessment of the patient's condition, each 15 minutes, will be ended dated effective April 30, 2019 on the home health agency fee schedule;
- The following HCPCS codes will replace HCPCS code G0163 to the home health agency fee schedule and added to the special services fee schedule, effective May 1, 2019:

HCPCS Code	Description	Rate
G0493	Skilled Services By A Licensed Nurse (LPN) for the observation and assessment of the patient's condition, each 15 minutes	\$58.78
G0494	Skilled Services By A Registered Nurse (RN) for the observation and assessment of the patient's condition, each 15 minutes	\$58.78

Fiscal Impact

DSS estimates that this SPA will increase annual aggregate Medicaid expenditures by approximately \$200 in State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2019 and \$2,200 in SFY 2020.

Obtaining SPA Language and Submitting Comments

This SPA is posted on the DSS web site at this link: <http://portal.ct.gov/dss>. Scroll down to the bottom of the webpage and click on "Publications" and then click on "Updates". Then click on "Medicaid State Plan Amendments". The proposed SPA

may also be obtained at any DSS field office or the Town of Vernon Social Services Department, or upon request from DSS (see below).

To request a copy of the SPA from DSS or to send comments about the SPA, please email: Public.Comment.DSS@ct.gov or write to: Department of Social Services, Medical Policy Unit, 55 Farmington Avenue, 9th Floor, Hartford, CT 06105 (Phone: 860-424-5067). Please reference “SPA 19-R: Updates to the Tuberculosis Limited Benefit Plan”.

Anyone may send DSS written comments about this SPA. Written comments must be received by DSS at the above contact information no later than May 15, 2019.

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

Notice of Intent to Renew the Personal Care Assistant Medicaid Waiver

In accordance with the provisions of section 17b-8 of the Connecticut General Statutes, notice is hereby given that the Commissioner of the Department of Social Services intends to renew the Personal Care Assistant (PCA) waiver and proposes to add three additional services.

The services being added are agency based Personal Care Assistant (PCA), Mental Health Counseling and Adult Day Health. The addition of agency based PCA will offer a choice for participants between agency and self-directed services.

A complete text of the waiver amendment is available, at no cost, upon request to the Community Options Unit, Department of Social Services, 55 Farmington Ave., Hartford, Connecticut 06106; email: shirlee.stoute@ct.gov.

All written comments, questions and concerns regarding these amendments may be submitted within 30 days of the publication of this notice to the Department of Social Services, Community Options Unit, 55 Farmington Ave., Hartford or to Kathy.a.bruni@ct.gov.

State of Connecticut Connecticut State Board of Examiners for Physical Therapists

Notice of Declaratory Ruling Proceeding

Pursuant to Conn. Gen. Stat. § 4-176, the Connecticut State Board of Examiners for Physical Therapists hereby gives notice of its intention to issue a declaratory ruling on the request for declaratory ruling filed by the Department of Public Health on the following issue:

- 1. Is acupuncture, as defined in Section 20-206aa(3) of the General Statutes, within the scope of practice of a physical therapists?**
- 2. Is dry needling*, provided that the practitioner is trained and competent to do so, within the scope of practice of a physical therapist as defined in Section 20-66(2) of the General Statutes?**

***For purposes of this declaratory ruling, “dry needling” may be defined as an intervention that uses a thin filiform needle to penetrate the skin and stimulate underlying myofascial trigger points, muscular, and connective tissues for the management of neuromusculoskeletal pain and movement impairments.**

The Connecticut State Board of Examiners for Physical Therapists (“the Board”) has prepared this notice in accordance with the Uniform Administrative Procedure Act (“UAPA”), Connecticut General Statute § 4-166 *et seq.*, and specifically Conn. Gen. Stat. § 4-176.

All persons seeking status to participate must petition the Board by May 31, 2019. All requests seeking status to participate in this matter shall be submitted in writing in accordance with § 4-176(d) of the Connecticut General Statutes and § 19a-9-26 through § 19a-9-28 of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies. All filings to be submitted to the Board shall be sent to the Department of Public Health, 410 Capitol Avenue MS#13PHO, P.O. Box 340308, Hartford, Connecticut, 06134-0308. It is anticipated that the Board will rule on petitions for status by June 25, 2019. A date for hearing will thereafter be scheduled by the Board.

By law, a declaratory ruling constitutes a statement of agency law which is binding upon those who participate in the hearing, and may also be utilized by the Connecticut State Board of Examiners for Physical Therapists, on a case by case basis, in future proceedings before it.

April 24, 2019

Mary Lou Sanders, MS, BSN
Chairperson
Connecticut State Board of Examiners
for Physical Therapists
