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State/Territory Name: Montana

State Plan Amendment (SPA) #: 17-0030

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- 1) Approval Letter
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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
Denver Regional Office
1961 Stout Street, Room 08-148
Denver, CO 80294



REGION VIII - DENVER

March 8, 2018

Marie Matthews, Medicaid & CHIP Director
Montana Department of Public Health & Human Services
P.O. Box 4210
Helena, MT 59604

Re: SPA MT-17-0030

Dear Ms. Matthews:

We have approved the State Plan Amendment (SPA) submitted under transmittal number MT-17-0030. The amendment implements a statewide 2.99% rate reduction for Speech Therapy & Audiology Services, with the effective fee schedule date reflected on Montana's Attachment 4.19B Introduction Page.

Please be informed that this State Plan Amendment was approved on March 7, 2018, with an effective date of January 1, 2018. We are enclosing the summary page and the amended plan page(s).

The State assures that the change in reimbursement for Speech Therapy & Audiology Services is not expected to have an effect on access to care for Medicaid beneficiaries. The State provided evidence from analysis reflected in a revised Addendum to Montana Medicaid 2016 Access Monitoring Plan that revealed consistent beneficiary utilization and provider enrollment for the benefit. Based on this information, CMS infers that the amendment does not affect consistency with the access to care requirements described in §1902(a)(30)(A) of the Social Security Act. While this SPA results in an overall decrease in State expenditures for Speech Therapy & Audiology Services, it was determined to be a nominal change in overall reimbursement as described in State Medicaid Director Letter (SMDL) #17-004.

In order to track expenditures associated with this amendment, Montana should follow the CMS-64 reporting instructions outlined in Section 2500 of the State Medicaid Manual (SMM).

For those individuals whose expenditures qualify for the newly eligible federal medical assistance percentage, report on the Form CMS-64.9 VIII and those not enrolled in the new adult group, claims should be reported on the Form CMS-64.9.

For Speech Therapy & Audiology Services, the expenditures should be reported on: Line 32 – Services for Speech, Hearing & Language.

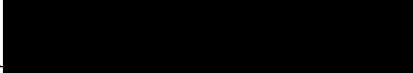

If you have any questions regarding this SPA please contact Barbara Prehmus at (303) 844-7472.

Sincerely,



Richard C. Allen
Associate Regional Administrator
Division for Medicaid & Children's Health Operations

cc: Sheila Hogan, Department Director
Mary Eve Kulawik

TRANSMITTAL AND NOTICE OF APPROVAL OF STATE PLAN MATERIAL		1. TRANSMITTAL NUMBER: 17-0030	2. STATE Montana
FOR: HEALTH CARE FINANCING ADMINISTRATION		3. PROGRAM IDENTIFICATION: TITLE XIX OF THE SOCIAL SECURITY ACT (MEDICAID)	
TO: REGIONAL ADMINISTRATOR HEALTH CARE FINANCING ADMINISTRATION DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES		4. PROPOSED EFFECTIVE DATE 01/01/2018	
5. TYPE OF PLAN MATERIAL (Check One):			
<input type="checkbox"/> NEW STATE PLAN <input type="checkbox"/> AMENDMENT TO BE CONSIDERED AS NEW PLAN <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AMENDMENT			
COMPLETE BLOCKS 6 THRU 10 IF THIS IS AN AMENDMENT (Separate Transmittal for each amendment)			
6. FEDERAL STATUTE/REGULATION CITATION: SECTION 1902(a)(30)(A) 42 CFR 440.110(c)		7. FEDERAL BUDGET IMPACT: a. FFY 2018: \$ 0 b. FFY 2019: \$ 0 c. FFY 2020: \$ 0 Amounts are reflected on the MT 17-0003 Reimbursement Introduction Page.	
8. PAGE NUMBER OF THE PLAN SECTION OR ATTACHMENT: Attachment 4.19 B, Methods and Standards for Establishing Payment Rates, Service 11.c, Speech Therapy & Audiology Services, Pages 1 & 2 of 2		9. PAGE NUMBER OF THE SUPERSEDED PLAN SECTION OR ATTACHMENT (If Applicable): Attachment 4.19 B, Methods and Standards for Establishing Payment Rates, Service 11.c, Speech Therapy & Audiology Services, Pages 1 & 2 of 2	
10. SUBJECT OF AMENDMENT: Speech Therapy & Audiology Medicare payment rates will decrease to 97.01%.			
11. GOVERNOR'S REVIEW (Check One):			
<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNOR'S OFFICE REPORTED NO COMMENT <input type="checkbox"/> COMMENTS OF GOVERNOR'S OFFICE ENCLOSED <input type="checkbox"/> NO REPLY RECEIVED WITHIN 45 DAYS OF SUBMITTAL		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER, AS SPECIFIED: Single Agency Director Review	
12. SIGNATURE OF STATE AGENCY OFFICIAL: 		16. RETURN TO: Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services Marie Matthews Attn: Mary Eve Kulawik PO Box 4210 Helena MT 59620	
13. TYPED NAME: Marie Matthews			
14. TITLE: State Medicaid Director			
15. DATE SUBMITTED: 2-23-18			
FOR REGIONAL OFFICE USE ONLY			
17. DATE RECEIVED: December 27, 2017		18. DATE APPROVED: March 7, 2018	
PLAN APPROVED - ONE COPY ATTACHED			
19. EFFECTIVE DATE OF APPROVED MATERIAL: January 1, 2018		20. SIGNATURE OF REGIONAL OFFICIAL: 	
21. TYPED NAME: Richard C. Allen		22. TITLE: ARA, DMCHO	
23. REMARKS:			

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- I. Reimbursement for Speech Therapy Services and Audiology Services shall be:
- A. For Speech Therapy Services the lower of:
 - 1. The provider's usual and customary charge for the service;
or
 - 2. The reimbursement provided in accordance with the methodology described in Section II.
 - B. For Audiology Services the lower of:
 - 1. The provider's usual and customary charge for the service; or
 - 2. The reimbursement provided in accordance with the methodology described in Section II; or
 - 3. 97.01% of the Medicare Region D allowable fee.
- II. The Department's fee schedule for Speech Therapy and Audiology Services is determined:
- A. In accordance with the Resource Based Relative Value Scale (RBRVS) methodology, by multiplying Medicare's Relative Value Units (RVU), or Medicare's base and time units for anesthesia services, which is numeric, by the Montana Medicaid specific conversion factor, which is a dollar amount, to equal a fee. Specific to Montana Medicaid, there is an ability to multiply the fee times a policy adjuster (either plus or minus) to affect the fee.
 - 1. RBRVS means the version of the Medicare resource based relative value scale contained in the Medicare Physician Fee Schedule (MPFS) adopted by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). The Department will update Medicare additions, deletions, or changes to procedure codes on the first of each quarter.
 - 2. RVU means a numerical value assigned by Medicare in the RBRVS methodology to each procedure code used to bill for services provided by a health care provider. The RVU assigned to a particular code expresses the relative effort and expense expended by a provider in providing one service as compared with another service.

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- B. For services not included in the RBRVS methodology, a Medicaid fee is determined by:
1. Reviewing cost information for the service if available or by reviewing the reimbursement of similar services if cost information is not available for procedure codes that are new (less than one year in existence); have no or low utilization; or have inconsistent charges.
 2. For procedure codes that cannot be determined by the methodology in the II.B.1., by multiplying the average charge for the service by the payment-to-charge ratio. The payment-to-charge ratio means the percent determined by dividing the previous state fiscal year's total Medicaid reimbursement for RBRVS provider covered services by the previous state fiscal year's total Medicaid charges for RBRVS provider covered services.
- C. Unless otherwise noted in the plan, state-developed fee schedule rates are the same for both governmental and private providers. The agency's rates were set as of the date on the Attachment 4.19B Introduction Page and are published at www.medicaidprovider.mt.gov.