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State/Territory Name: Washington

State Plan Amendment (SPA) #: 19-0024

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
Seattle Regional Office
701 Fifth Avenue, Suite 1600, MS/RX-200
Seattle, WA 98104



Western Division - Regional Operations Group

September 26, 2019

Susan Birch, Director
MaryAnne Lindeblad, Medicaid Director
Health Care Authority
PO Box 45502
Olympia, WA 98504-5010

RE: Washington State Plan Amendment (SPA) Transmittal Number 19-0024

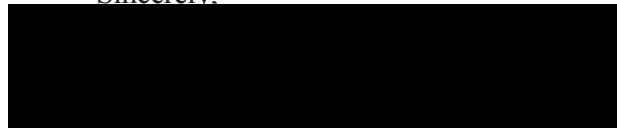
Dear Ms. Birch and Ms. Lindeblad:

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) has completed its review of State Plan Amendment (SPA) Transmittal Number WA 19-0024. This amendment was submitted to implement a ten percent increase to the hourly and daily rate for Private Duty Nursing authorized by Engrossed Substitute House Bill 1109, which was passed in the 2018-2019 legislative session.

This SPA is approved with an effective date of January 1, 2020.

If there are additional questions, please contact me or your staff may contact James Moreth at James.Moreth@cms.hhs.gov or (206) 615-2043.

Sincerely,



Deputy Director

cc:

Ann Myers, SPA Coordinator

STATE PLAN UNDER TITLE XIX OF THE SOCIAL SECURITY ACT

STATE: WASHINGTON

POLICY AND METHODS USED IN ESTABLISHING PAYMENT RATES FOR EACH OF THE OTHER TYPES OF CARE OR SERVICE LISTED IN SECTION 1905 (A) OF THE ACT THAT IS INCLUDED IN THE PROGRAM UNDER THE PLAN (cont.)

IX. Other Noninstitutional Services (cont.)

I. Private Duty Nursing Services

Private duty nursing services consist of four or more hours of continuous skilled nursing services provided in the home to eligible clients who are 17 years of age or younger with complex medical needs that cannot be managed within the scope of intermittent home health services. The agency will authorize private duty nursing services up to a maximum of 16 hours per day, restricted to the least costly, equally effective amount of care. Nursing rates for services provided in the home setting are flat rates and based on comparable nursing rates.

Rate changes made through the Vendor Rate Increase (VRI) may be made only through the legislative process. Selected rate changes may also be adjusted through a special appropriation directed by the Washington State Legislature. The agency may set rates outside of the legislative process if the agency determines such actions are necessary to maintain access to critical services. The Washington State Legislature approved a 10% rate increase to the hourly rate and the daily rate for skilled nursing services provided in a home setting, effective for services provided on and after January 1, 2020.

Except as otherwise noted in the plan, fee schedule rates are the same for both governmental and private providers of these services. The fee schedule is effective for services provided on and after January 1, 2020. See 4.19-B, I, General, #G for the agency's website where the fee schedules are published.

J. Physical therapy, occupational therapy, and services for Individuals with speech, hearing and language disorders

The agency does not pay separately for therapy services that are included as part of payment for other treatments or programs.

The Medicaid Agency pays the lesser of the usual and customary charge or a fee based on a Medicaid Agency fee schedule for these services. Maximum allowable fees are developed using the Resource Based Relative Value Scale (RBRVS) methodology. Rates are established and updated using the RBRVS methodology as adopted in the Medicare Fee Schedule Data Base (MFSDDB). In this methodology, under Washington Administrative Code, chapter 182-531, the State uses CMS-established relative value units (RVU) multiplied by the Geographic Practice Cost Indices (GPCI) and the conversion factors, both of which are specific to Washington. Current conversion factors and descriptions are found in Supplement 3 to Attachment 4.19-B.