



Alaska Medical Assistance

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Remittance Advice (RA) Message

Title: Rate Increases for FY2019; Delayed Rate Reductions for FY2018

Issue Date: 06/27/2018

Run Length: 6 weeks

Provider Type(s): 020, 021, 025, 030, 033, 034, 035, 036, 039, 040, 041, 042, 043, 045, 046, 050, 051, 054, 056, 066, 075, 078, 080, 081, 117

Message: On April 12, 2017 the Department of Health and Social Services public noticed proposed cost-containment regulations necessary to meet budgetary constraints. The changes were proposed to reduce rates for facilities and other providers, and disregard the FY2018 annual inflation-based changes for physicians and other professional providers whose rates are subject to the Resource-Based Relative Value Scale (RBRVS) methodology. Following an extended public comment period, the proposed regulations were filed by the lieutenant governor on August 21, 2017, with an October 1, 2017 effective date. The signed regulations are available at <https://aws.state.ak.us/OnlinePublicNotices/Notices/Attachment.aspx?id=109017>.

Facility and other provider rate reductions were implemented as scheduled, however modifications to RBRVS-based rates were delayed until June 11, 2018. As the RBRVS-based rate adjustments occur, you will see the slight changes in your weekly remittance advice.

The annual RBRVS rate adjustment for FY2019, effective July 1, 2018, will result in an overall net .05 percent increase in RBRVS-based rates, which will partially offset rate decreases that occur as a result of the October 1, 2017 regulations. FAQs are available at <http://manuals.medicaidalaska.com/docs/updates.htm>. If you have any questions that are not answered in the RBRVS Rate Adjustment FAQs, please email them to Susan Dunkin at susan.dunkin@alaska.gov.

Thank you for the services you continue to provide, and for your patience and cooperation as we work together to navigate Alaska's fiscal challenges.