

**TEXAS HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
COMMISSION
RATE ANALYSIS DEPARTMENT**

**Proposed Medicaid Payment Rates for Audiometric
Services**

Payment rates are proposed to be effective October 1, 2013.

SUMMARY OF PROPOSED MEDICAID PAYMENT RATES

Effective October 1, 2013

Included in this document is information relating to the proposed Medicaid payment rates for Audiometric Services. The rates are proposed to be effective October 1, 2013.

Hearing

The Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) will conduct a public hearing to receive comments regarding the proposed Medicaid rates detailed in this document on August 20, 2013, at 1:30 p.m. in the Public Hearing Room in the Brown-Heatly Building at 4900 North Lamar Boulevard, Austin, Texas 78751, with entrance through security at the front of the building facing Lamar Boulevard. HHSC will consider concerns expressed at the hearing prior to final rate approval. This public hearing is held in compliance with the provisions of the Human Resources Code §32.0282 and the Texas Administrative Code, Title 1 (1 TAC), §355.201, which require a public hearing on proposed payment rates. Should you have any questions regarding the information in this document, please contact:

James Hollinger, Acute Care Rate Analysis
Texas Health and Human Services Commission
(512) 707-6069; FAX: (512) 730-7475
E-mail: james.hollinger@hhsc.state.tx.us

Background

HHSC is responsible for the reimbursement determination functions for the Texas Medicaid Program. Proposed rates are calculated utilizing established methodologies that conform to the Social Security Act and related federal regulations, the federally approved Texas Medicaid State Plan, all applicable state statutes and rules, and other requirements. HHSC reviews the Medicaid reimbursement rates for all acute care services every two years and clinical laboratory services are reviewed annually. These biennial reviews result in rates that are increased, decreased, or remain the same. The reviews are unrelated to any rate reduction imposed by the Legislature but rather conducted to ensure that rates continue to be based on established rate methodologies.

Methodology

The specific administrative rules that govern the establishment of the fees in this proposal include this rule in 1 TAC:

- §355. 8141, which addresses the reimbursement for hearing aid services.

Proposed Rates

(1) If Medicare reimburses a audiometric service, the maximum allowable fee will be equal to or a percentage of the Medicare reimbursement rate for the procedure code, using the Medicare fee schedule that is specific to Texas and that is available at the time of review, unless HHSC determines, based on documented evidence, that the Medicare reimbursement rate is insufficient for the Medicaid population.

(2) If Medicare does not reimburse for a audiometric service, the maximum allowable fee is set using other sources, such as:

(A) Custom or published reports and reimbursement rates for the same or similar item within a specific geographic area of Texas;

(B) Medicaid payment rates for the same or similar items in other states;

(3) Notwithstanding paragraphs (1) and (2) of this subsection, if a procedure code covers a broad range of items with a broad range of costs such that HHSC determines a single payment rate is unreasonable or could unduly limit access to care, HHSC may establish the maximum allowable fee using manual pricing, using the following methodology.

Proposed payment rates are listed in the attachment outlined below:

Attachment – Audiometric Services