

## **PUBLIC NOTICE**

Pursuant to C.F.R. § 447.205, the Oklahoma Health Care Authority (OHCA) is required to give public notice of any significant proposed change in methods and standards for setting payment rates for services in the SoonerCare program. The following payment changes will necessitate amendments to the Oklahoma Medicaid State Plan. The changes will be presented in two public hearings. These are the State Plan Amendment Rate Committee (SPARC) on November 9, 2016, at 10:00 a.m. and the OHCA Board meeting on December 8, 2016, at 1:00 p.m. Both meetings will be held at the OHCA offices located at 4345 N. Lincoln Blvd., OKC, OK 73105, in the OHCA Board Room.

### **Pharmacy Covered Outpatient Drugs**

The OHCA proposes a change to the covered outpatient drugs rate and method to reflect new federal regulations and the Affordable Care Act (ACA). This change will impact reimbursement rates for I/T/U and non-I/T/U pharmacy providers. Changes will allow I/T/U pharmacies to be reimbursed at the federal OMB encounter rate. The OMB rate will be paid based on a per member-per facility-per day payment. Current methodology for non-I/T/U pharmacies includes ingredient cost and a dispensing fee; both are affected by this change. Currently, the agency utilizes published drug pricing benchmarks to determine the Estimated Acquisition Cost (EAC) for drug ingredient costs. Proposed methodology changes will use Actual Acquisition Cost (AAC) to price brand and generic drugs. The change will also require the agency to provide a professional dispensing fee of \$10.55 instead of the current \$3.60 dispensing fee. The proposed changes will be effective on or after January 1, 2017, pursuant to compliance with public notice requirements and applicable federal approval. The estimated total budget impact for the proposed State Plan Amendment is budget neutral.

Copies of the proposed changes are available for public review at the Oklahoma Health Care Authority by contacting Melinda Thomason at the Oklahoma Health Care Authority, 4345 N. Lincoln Blvd., Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, 73105, Telephone 405-522-7125. She will link callers with local agencies in each county where copies of the proposed changes are available for public review. Written and oral comments will be accepted during regular business hours by contacting Ms. Thomason as indicated. Comments so submitted will be available for review by the public Monday – Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., at OHCA at the above address.