Advisory bulletin: Medicaid reimbursement for Medicaid Clients – COVID-19

Release date: March 27, 2020

Attn: Ambulance Service Providers

In order to facilitate access to care for Medicaid clients, and to assist Wyoming's healthcare system in managing the burden created by the COVID-19 outbreak, the Wyoming Department of Health, Healthcare Financing, Medicaid is issuing an exception to policy regarding ambulance service reimbursement.

During the period of the national and state public health emergency, licensed ambulance services may file a claim for reimbursement for services provided to a Medicaid client using the ambulance taxonomy codes:

A0998 - Treat and release
99600 - Home visit NOS

The potential scenarios under which reimbursement may be allowed include:
1) The assessment, treatment, and subsequent non-transport of a known or suspected COVID-19 patient;
2) A follow-up assessment or continued monitoring of a known or suspected COVID-19 patient at the request or direction of a public health entity;
3) The transport of a patient to a site identified as an alternative care or surge location;
4) The transport of a patient, regardless of their COVID status, to a location other than the most appropriate or closest hospital in order to prevent overloading of a hospital or due to excess patient census.

Please understand that the use of these codes, which are generally applicable only to organized Community EMS programs, is restricted to the period during which the Governor's declarations remain in effect, and this exception to policy will be rescinded when no longer needed.

Amy Guimond
Benefits Quality Control Manager, Tribal Liaison
amy.guimond@wyo.gov