

THOUGHTWARE®

# RHC Regulatory and Reimbursement Update



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**BKD**

# Current Environment

- **Rural Health Clinics continue to provide basic services in underserved areas**
  - Currently over 4,500 RHCs nationwide
  - Many RHCs are expanding services to combat the opioid epidemic
    - RCORP-Medication-Assisted Treatment Expansion awards
    - Up to \$725,000 for 3 year period to expand MAT
  - RHCs begin to add care management and virtual communication services
    - CCM rate increased to \$67.03 (G0511)
  - RHCs and FQHCs expanding into school-based health services

# Current Environment

- **Health Centers identified to be on the front line to help combat the opioid crisis**
  - September, 2018 - HHS awards over \$1 billion to support Five-Point Opioid Strategy

## HHS 5-POINT STRATEGY TO COMBAT THE OPIOIDS CRISIS



**Better** addiction  
prevention,  
treatment, and  
recovery services



**Better** data



**Better** pain  
management



**Better** targeting  
of overdose  
reversing drugs



**Better** research

# Current Environment - Medicare

- **CMS continues to explore and expand payment for telehealth and virtual communication services**
  - Virtual Communications (HCPCS code G0071)
  - Included in 2019 MPFS Final Rule (effective 1/1/19)
  - Brief discussion to determine if visit is necessary
    - Does not replace a face to face visit
    - Not to be confused with telehealth
  - At least 5 minutes of communication (telephone, secured text, email, etc)
  - Patient must have had a billable visit in the past year
  - Not billable if patient was seen within 7 days prior to discussion or leads to a visit within 24 hours
  - Paid at \$13.69 subject to coinsurance
  - Billing is tricky
  - Goal – Concern for patients health outside of the visit

# Current Environment - Medicaid

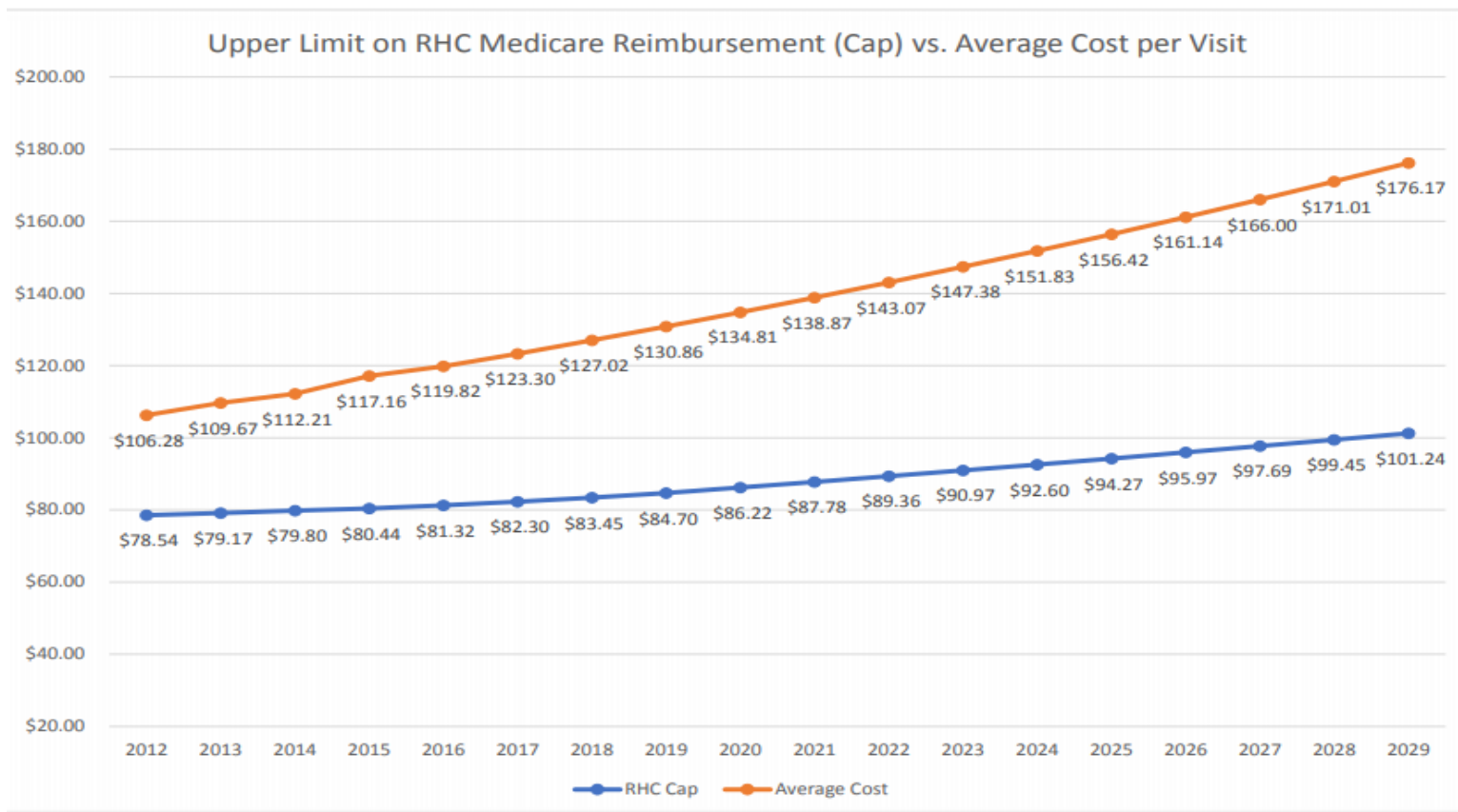
- **Kentucky is seeking permission from CMS to amend state plan to expand school-based health services**
  - School districts receive federal Medicaid funding to provide increased access such as mental health, screenings, and asthma management
  - RHC and FQHC continue to find solutions to partner with school districts

# Current Environment - Medicare

- **S.1037 - Rural Health Clinic Modernization Act of 2019**
  - Introduced in Senate April 4, 2019
  - Raises Medicare cap to \$105 per visit beginning in CY 2020
    - Currently \$84.70 for CY 2019
  - Aligns federal physician supervision requirements to state scope of practice
  - Allows RHCs to move certain lab services offsite
  - Removes employed NP or PA requirement
  - Allows RHCs to be distant site for telehealth services
  - Creates state option for rural designation



# Current Environment - Medicare



# Medicare Cost Report 222-17

- **Medicare issued new cost report form 222-17 replacing the old 222-92**
  - Effective for cost reporting periods ending on or after 9/30/18
  - Followed the FQHC which created their own form 224-14 cost report
  - Eliminated CMS 339 Questionnaire
  - Expanded visit category by including Title V and Title XIX visit counts
  - Renamed worksheets to be consistent with other cost report forms
  - Reorganized and expanded cost centers on Worksheet A
    - Flu and pneumo vaccine cost
  - Added new lines for CCM and Telehealth (not paid under AIR)
  - Estimated time to complete increased from 50 to 55 hours



# Medicare Cost Report 222-17

- **Takeaways for those responsible for gathering cost report data**

- Must enter date requested and approved for consolidated sites
- Malpractice premium reporting requirements
- Must be able to report visits by Medicare, Medicaid and Other
- Influenza and pneumococcal vaccine cost are now reported in their own cost center on Worksheet A, lines 30 and 31
  - Previously reported directly on WS B-1
  - Will more than likely require a reclass on Worksheet A-6

# Medicare Cost Report 222-17

- **Takeaways for those responsible for gathering cost report data**

- Frequently request PS&R summaries to keep login current
- Financial data should be reported on accrual (not cash) basis
- Keep vaccine logs current
- Keep vaccine invoices handy
  - Prevnar 13 vs pneumovax
- Track Medicare bad debts
  - Paid at 65%



# Medicare Cost Report 222-17

EXHIBIT 1  
LISTING OF MEDICARE BAD DEBTS AND APPROPRIATE SUPPORTING DATA

RHC Name \_\_\_\_\_  
RHC CCN \_\_\_\_\_  
FYE \_\_\_\_\_

Prepared By \_\_\_\_\_  
Date Prepared \_\_\_\_\_

[illegible]

\*These amounts must not be claimed unless the RHC bills for these services with the intention of receiving payment.  
See instructions for columns 5 and 6 - Indigency/Medicaid Beneficiary, for possible exception.  
These amounts must not be claimed if they were included on a previous Medicare bad debt listing or cost report.

# Medicare Cost Report 222-17

- **Takeaways for those responsible for gathering cost report data**

- Some of the Medicare contractors (Palmetto) are now paying lump sum payments and adjusting rates in the interim
  - Send any MAC correspondence to your cost report preparer
- New RHCs
  - Typically paid an interim rate of \$50 unless projected cost reports are submitted to the MAC
  - Must request approval to consolidate
  - Must bill under the correct PTAN

# Medicaid Reminders

- **RHCs paid a PPS rate**
  - **Based on first full fiscal year after the effective enrollment date (survey date)**
    - Must reach maximum hours per day, days per week and weeks per year of intended operation
  - **Paid on an interim rate until a cost report is filed and audited**
    - Based on PPS rates of entities with similar caseloads
    - Track actual vs interim at a minimum quarterly
  - **If final rate is lower than Alternative Payment Methodology, the APM can be requested**
    - \$99.75
    - Not adjusted for inflation

# Medicaid Reminders

- **RHCs paid a PPS rate**
  - Cost reports are subject to audit by Myers & Stauffer
  - Review provider compensation and productivity
  - Review any related part costs
- **Consider possible rate increases due to change in scope**
  - OB/GYN
  - MAT/SUD
  - Behavioral Health



# Threats

- **Potential Cuts to 340B program (provider-based RHCs)**
- **Future of Medicaid PPS**
  - Shift from volume to value
- **Staffing shortages**
- **Medicaid expansion**

# Questions?

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