

RULE

Department of Health and Hospitals Office of the Undersecretary Bureau of Health Services Financing

Tuberculosis—Infected Individuals Coverage



The Department of Health and Hospitals, Office of the Undersecretary, Bureau of Health Services Financing, has adopted the following rule in the Medical Assistance Program as authorized by R.S. 46:153 and pursuant to Title XIX of the Social Security Act. This rule is in accordance with the provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act, R.S. 49:950 et seq.

Rule

The Department of Health and Hospitals, Office of the Undersecretary, Bureau of Health Services Financing, provides Medicaid coverage for specific services to eligible individuals who have been diagnosed as or are suspected of being infected with tuberculosis.

The financial eligibility of these persons will be determined in accordance with the income and resource standards for the Supplemental Security Income eligibility group. These individuals must meet all general nonfinancial requirements or conditions of eligibility for Medicaid coverage including compliance with the application, residency and assignment of rights requirements. Medically needy spend-down provisions are not applicable to this category of eligibles. Medical eligibility is to be determined by the Medical Eligibility Determination Team regarding their status as TB-infective. Medicaid coverage for medical and health services to this new optional group is limited to the following specific services which must be provided for the purpose of treating an individual's tuberculosis infection. Allowable services include services to diagnose and confirm the presence of the infection including physician, pharmacy, laboratory and X-ray, rural health clinics, federally qualified health centers services, outpatient hospital services, clinic services and directly observed therapy. Coverage for outpatient hospital services, clinic and directly observed therapy services is restricted to outpatients only. Medicaid coverage does not include inpatient hospital or nursing facility services or room and board for the new group of eligibles. Current Medicaid recipients who are or who become TB-infected are eligible to receive the directly observed therapy services on an outpatient basis for the treatment of their tuberculosis condition.

The reimbursement for physician, pharmacy, laboratory and x-ray, rural health clinics, federally qualified health centers, outpatient hospital services and clinic services provided to individuals infected with tuberculosis is made according to established regulations and policy for the reimbursement of these services under the Medicaid Program. The reimbursement for the provision of the new service, directly observed therapy is paid as a TB clinic service to the Office of Public Health at a prospective fee for service rate established by the Medicaid Program.

Bobby P. Jindal
Secretary

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