

DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY

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

Hospital Program—Outpatient Rehabilitation Services

The Department of Health and Hospitals, Office of the Secretary, Bureau of Health Services Financing, has adopted the following Emergency Rule in the Medical Assistance Program as authorized by R.S. 46:153 and pursuant to Title XIX of the Social Security Act. This Emergency Rule is in accordance with the provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act, R.S. 49:950 et seq., and shall be in effect for the maximum period allowed under the Administrative Procedure Act or until adoption of the rule, whichever occurs first.

The Department of Health and Hospitals, Bureau of Health Services Financing previously reimbursed hospitals for outpatient speech, occupational and physical therapies through a cost settlement process. The bureau adopted an Emergency Rule effective August 1, 1996 revising this reimbursement methodology by establishing a flat fee for services in accordance with the reimbursement methodology for rehabilitation clinics. In accordance with an edict from the Legislative Health and Welfare Committee, the bureau has now determined it is necessary to adopt the following Emergency Rule repealing the August 1, 1996 Emergency Rule which revised the reimbursement methodology for outpatient hospital rehabilitation services.

Emergency Rule

Effective for dates of service September 5, 1996 and thereafter, the Department of Health and Hospitals, Office of the Secretary, Bureau of Health Services Financing repeals the August 1, 1996 Emergency Rule on revising the reimbursement methodology for outpatient hospital rehabilitation services to a flat fee which was published in the August 20, 1996 issue of the *Louisiana Register*, Volume 22, Number 8.

Interested persons may submit written comments to: Thomas D. Collins, Bureau of Health Services Financing, Box 91030, Baton Rouge, LA 70821-9030. He is responsible for responding to inquiries regarding this Emergency Rule.

Bobby P. Jindal
Secretary

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