

Retroactive Rate Increase for Adult Behavioral Health HCBS

OVERVIEW

On July 21st, New York State announced that the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) have approved a retroactive rate increase for several of the Behavioral Health Home and Community Based Services (BH HCBS). The BH HCBS are a set of community-based services that are available to qualifying members of Health and Recovery Plans (HARPs) and HIV Special Need Plans (HIV SNPs).

The guidance, available [here](#), includes a table listing out all approved rate increases by service. Updated rates can also be found on the Office of Mental Health (OMH) website [here](#). Any questions or concerns regarding the rate changes should be emailed to gwen.diamond@omh.ny.gov. A summary of the changes is provided below.

Off-site Psychosocial Rehabilitation and Crisis Services

Retroactive to November 1, 2016, the State is increasing rates for off-site Psychosocial Rehabilitation (PSR) and crisis services. Short-term crisis respite rates have been increased by 15% and intensive crisis respite rates have been increased by 25%. Off-site psychosocial rehabilitation rates have been increased by \$1.51 downstate and \$1.35 upstate (per 15-minute increment).

Temporary Start-up Rates

Retroactive to May 1, 2017, the State will provide temporary rate increases to help cover providers' start-up costs, including the cost of hiring and training staff and providing certain BH HCBS during a ramp-up period (as indicated in Table 2 of the attached memo). The administrative fee paid to Medicaid Managed Care plans will not increase. Start-up rates will be increased by 50% over the previously approved fees. These rates will be effective until the earlier of:

- December 31, 2017 (Downstate) and April 30, 2018 (Upstate); or
- The date when the number of enrollees receiving BH HCBS reaches 10,500 (Downstate) and 9,450 (Upstate).

Reprocessing of Claims

Currently, HARPs and HIV SNPs pass through fee-for-service (FFS) payments for these services. Therefore, New York State's eMedNY payment system will automatically reprocess past submitted claims and reimburse the HARPs and HIV SNPs at the higher rates. Within 60 days of receiving these higher payments from eMedNY, plans should reprocess their paid provider claims for affected BH HCBS services, retroactive to the dates listed above.