

**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH CARE SERVICES  
NOTICE OF GENERAL PUBLIC INTEREST  
RELEASE DATE: DECEMBER 22, 2021**

**PROPOSED STATE PLAN AMENDMENT TO CONTINUE THE QUALITY &  
ACCOUNTABILITY SUPPLEMENTAL PAYMENT PROGRAM AND REVISE  
QUALITY MEASURES FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2022**

This notice provides information of public interest with respect to the Skilled Nursing Facility (SNF) Quality and Accountability Supplemental Payment (QASP) Program. The Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) proposes to submit State Plan Amendment (SPA) 22-0011 to the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) to renew the QASP Program and to revise the quality measures for the QASP methodology, effective January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022.

Assembly Bill (AB) 81 (Chapter 13, Statutes of 2020), in relevant part, amends and renews the QASP Program until December 31, 2022. AB 81 also requires DHCS, in coordination with the California Department of Public Health (CDPH), to develop quality measures for the QASP Program. In consultation with stakeholders, DHCS and CDPH annually review and revise the quality measures. The quality measures for the applicable period are as follows:

1. Physical Restraints: Long Stay - monitor-only, not scored
2. Facility-Acquired Pressure Ulcer Incidence: Long Stay
3. Influenza Vaccination: Short Stay
4. Pneumococcal Vaccination: Short Stay
5. Urinary Tract Infection: Long Stay
6. Control of Bowel/Bladder: Long Stay
7. Self-Report Pain: Short Stay
8. Self-Report Pain: Long Stay
9. Need for Help with Activities of Daily Living: Long Stay
10. California-Specific Received an Antipsychotic Medication: Long Stay
11. 30-Day SNF Rehospitalization
12. Staff Retention

DHCS anticipates an increase in the annual aggregate Medi-Cal expenditures as a result of proposed SPA 22-0011. Contingent on federal approval, the pool of funds available for the 2022 QASP payments is estimated to be \$81 million total funds, of which certain portions will be designated for primary and delayed award payments. The primary payment pool amounts will be divided across three service periods, similar to the calendar year 2021 QASP payments.

## **PUBLIC REVIEW AND COMMENTS**

Upon submission to CMS, a copy of SPA 22-0011 will be published at the following internet address:

<https://www.dhcs.ca.gov/formsandpubs/laws/Pages/PendingStatePlanAmendments.aspx>  
[X](#)

If you would like to view the SPA in person once it becomes available, please visit your local county welfare department. You may also request a copy of SPA 22-0011 using the mailing address or e-mail address below.

Written comments may be sent to the following address:

Department of Health Care Services  
Fee-For-Service Rates Development Division  
P.O. Box 997413, MS 4600  
Sacramento, California 95899-7417

Comments may also be emailed to [Publicinput@dhcs.ca.gov](mailto:Publicinput@dhcs.ca.gov). Please indicate SPA 22-0011 in the subject line or message.

A copy of submitted public comments related to SPA 22-0011 may be requested in writing to the mailing address or e-mail inbox identified above.