

**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH CARE SERVICES
NOTICE OF GENERAL PUBLIC INTEREST
RELEASE DATE: JUNE 28, 2022**

**PROPOSED STATE PLAN AMENDMENT TO UPDATE RATE SETTING METH-
ODOLOGY FOR CLINICAL LABORATORY AND LABORATORY SERVICES**

This notice is to provide information of public interest about a proposed State Plan Amendment (SPA) by the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS). The proposed SPA 22-0053 will update the Medi-Cal Fee-For-Service (FFS) rate setting methodology for clinical laboratory and laboratory services, effective July 1, 2022.

The Public Health Omnibus Bill of 2021, Assembly Bill (AB) 133 (Chapter 143, Statutes of 2021) requires that reimbursement rates for clinical laboratory or laboratory services shall not exceed the lowest of several factors, including 100 percent of the lowest maximum allowance established by the federal Medicare program for the same or similar services, for dates of service on or after July 1, 2022. Accordingly, DHCS is updating the methodology in the State Plan to reflect this new factor of 100 percent of the Medicare rate.

DHCS estimates that SPA 22-0053 will be cost neutral and have minimal impact to the annual aggregate Medi-Cal expenditures for clinical laboratory services.

The effective date of the proposed SPA is July 1, 2022. All proposed SPAs are subject to approval by the Federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS).

PUBLIC REVIEW AND COMMENTS

Upon submission to CMS, a copy of the proposed SPA #22-0053 will be published at the following internet address:

<https://www.dhcs.ca.gov/formsandpubs/laws/Pages/Pending-2022.aspx>

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 proposed SPA #22-0053 using the mailing or email addresses listed below.

Written comments may be sent to the following address:

Department of Health Care Services
Fee-for-Service Rates Development Division
Attn: Provider Rates Section
P.O. Box 997413, MS 4600
Sacramento, California 95899-7417

Comments may also be emailed to PublicInput@dhcs.ca.gov. Please indicate SPA #22-0053 in the subject line or message.

A copy of submitted public comments to SPA #22-0053 may be requested in writing to the mailing or email addresses identified above.