



Division of Medicaid & Children's Health Operations

December 17, 2018

Mari Cantwell
Chief Deputy Director, Health Care Programs
CA Department of Health Care Services
Director's Office, MS 0000
P.O. Box 997413
Sacramento, CA 95899-7418

Dear Ms. Cantwell:

In accordance with 42 CFR 438.6(c), the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) has reviewed and is approving California's submission of a proposal for delivery system and provider payment initiatives under Medicaid managed care plan contracts. The proposal was received by CMS on June 29, 2018.

Specifically, the following proposal for delivery system and provider payment initiatives is approved:

- Quality Incentive Pool for Designated Public Hospital Systems as defined by CA Welfare & Institutions Code: 14184.10(f)(1) for the rating periods covering July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2021

This approval letter does not constitute approval of any Medicaid managed care plan contracts or rate certifications for the aforementioned rating period, or any specific Medicaid financing mechanism used to support the provider payment arrangement. All other federal laws and regulations apply. This approval letter only satisfies the regulatory requirement pursuant to 42 CFR 438.6(c)(2) for written approval prior to implementation of any payment arrangement described in 42 CFR 438.6(c)(1). Approval of the corresponding Medicaid managed care plan contracts and rate certifications is still required.

Note that this payment arrangement must be addressed in the applicable rate certifications. CMS is happy to provide technical assistance to states and their actuaries.

CMS appreciates the analysis that the state provided on the provider reimbursement levels as part of the review of this proposal. However, in future reviews, CMS would recommend that the state provide an analysis that includes an estimate of the base rate, the effect of all applicable directed payments, and pass-through payments that is specific to the provider class covered by the proposal (specifically Designated Public Hospital Systems as defined by CA Welfare & Institutions Code: 14184.10(f)(1)).

If you have questions concerning this letter, please contact John Giles, Division of Managed Care Plans at (410) 786-1255 or Peter Banks at (415) 744-3782.

Sincerely,

/s/

Dzung A. Hoang
Acting Associate Regional Administrator
Division of Medicaid & Children's Health Operations

cc: John Giles, DMCP
Laura Snyder, DMCP