



Virginia
Regulatory
Town Hall

Emergency Regulation Agency Background Document

Agency Name:	Dept. of Medical Assistance Services; 12 VAC 30
VAC Chapter Number:	Chapter 70
Regulation Title:	Methods and Standards for Establishing Reimbursement Rates- Inpatient Hospital Services
Action Title:	2002 Reimbursement Reduction
Date:	7/11/2002; GOV ACTION NEEDED BY 8/15/2002

Section 9-6.14:4.1(C)(5) of the Administrative Process Act allows for the adoption of emergency regulations. Please refer to the APA, Executive Order Twenty-Four (98), and the *Virginia Register Form, Style and Procedure Manual* for more information and other materials required to be submitted in the emergency regulation submission package.

Emergency Preamble

Please provide a statement that the emergency regulation is necessary and provide detail of the nature of the emergency. Section 9-6.14:4.1(C)(5) of the Administrative Process Act states that an "emergency situation" means: (i) a situation involving an imminent threat to public health or safety; or (ii) a situation in which Virginia statutory law, the Virginia appropriation act, or federal law requires that a regulation shall be effective in 280 days or less from its enactment, or in which federal regulation requires a regulation to take effect no later than 280 days from its effective date. The statement should also identify that the regulation is not otherwise exempt under the provisions of § 9-6.14:4.1(C)(4).

Please include a brief summary of the emergency action. There is no need to state each provision or amendment.

This regulatory action qualifies as an emergency, pursuant to the authority of the *Code of Virginia*, 1950 as amended, § 2.2-4011, because it is responding to a change in the Virginia Appropriations Act that must be effective within 280 days from the date of enactment of the Appropriations Act (the 2002 Acts of Assembly, Chapter 899, Item 325 KK) and this regulatory action is not otherwise exempt under the provisions of the Code § 2.2-4006. Since DMAS intends to continue regulating the two issues contained in this emergency regulation past the

effective period permitted by this emergency action, it is also requesting approval of its Notice of Intended Regulatory Action in conformance to § 2.2-4007.

This regulatory action proposes to amend the reimbursement to hospitals to achieve the mandatory savings specified in the 2002 Acts of Assembly.

Basis

Please identify the state and/or federal source of legal authority to promulgate the emergency regulation. The discussion of this emergency statutory authority should: 1) describe its scope; and 2) include a brief statement relating the content of the statutory authority to the specific regulation. Full citations of legal authority and web site addresses, if available for locating the text of the cited authority, should be provided.

Please provide a statement that the Office of the Attorney General has certified that the agency has the statutory authority to promulgate the emergency regulation and that it comports with applicable state and/or federal law.

The *Code of Virginia* (1950) as amended, § 32.1-325, grants to the Board of Medical Assistance Services the authority to administer and amend the Plan for Medical Assistance. The *Code of Virginia* (1950) as amended, § 32.1-324, authorizes the Director of the Department of Medical Assistance Services (DMAS) to administer and amend the Plan for Medical Assistance according to the Board's requirements.

The Medicaid authority as established by § 1902 (a) of the *Social Security Act* [42 U.S.C. 1396a] provides governing authority for payments for services

Substance

Please detail any changes, other than strictly editorial changes, that would be implemented. Please outline new substantive provisions, all substantive changes to existing sections, or both where appropriate. Please provide a cross-walk which includes citations to the specific sections of an existing regulation being amended and explain the consequences of the proposed changes. The statement should set forth the specific reasons the agency has determined that the proposed regulatory action would be essential to protect the health, safety or welfare of Virginians. The statement should also delineate any potential issues that may need to be addressed as a permanent final regulation is developed.

The section of the State Plan for Medical Assistance affected by this amendment are Methods and Standards for Establishing Payment Rates-Chapter 70 (12 VAC30-70), Inpatient Hospital Services.

In accordance with Title 42 §§ 447.250 through 447.252 of the Code of Federal Regulations which implements § 1902(a)(13)(A) of the Social Security Act, the Department of Medical Assistance Services (DMAS) establishes payment rates for services that are reasonable and adequate to meet the costs that must be incurred by efficiently and economically operated facilities to provide services in conformity with state and federal laws, regulations, and quality and safety standards. The General Assembly has considered the hospital component of the Medicaid program and has determined that a total reduction of payments to hospitals participating in the Virginia Medicaid Program in the amount of \$8,935,825 and \$9,227,815 total funds for the respective state fiscal years of 2003 and 2004 is prudent and necessary.

An amendment to 12 VAC 30-70-201, hospital reimbursement system, is proposed to accommodate this mandated payment reduction.

Alternatives

Please describe the specific alternatives that were considered and the rationale used by the agency to select the least burdensome or intrusive method to meet the essential purpose of the action.

The General Assembly has mandated these changes to the State Plan. The only alternative is to make no change. If this state regulation is not adopted, however, the Commonwealth will not be able to comply with the directive of the General Assembly of Virginia.

Family Impact Statement

Please provide a preliminary analysis of the potential impact of the emergency action on the institution of the family and family stability including to what extent the action will: 1) strengthen or erode the authority and rights of parents in the education, nurturing, and supervision of their children; 2) encourage or discourage economic self-sufficiency, self-pride, and the assumption of responsibility for oneself, one's spouse, and one's children and/or elderly parents; 3) strengthen or erode the marital commitment; and 4) increase or decrease disposable family income.

This regulation has no impact on recipients or their families. These changes do not strengthen or erode the authority and rights of parents in the education, nurturing, and supervision of their children; encourage or discourage economic self-sufficiency, self-pride, and the assumption of responsibility for oneself, one's spouse, and one's children and/or elderly parents; strengthen or erode the marital commitment; or increase or decrease disposable family income.