

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
Atlanta Regional Office
61 Forsyth Street, Suite 4T20
Atlanta, Georgia 30303



DIVISION OF MEDICAID & CHILDREN'S HEALTH OPERATIONS

February 2, 2016

Mr. Christian Soura
Director
SC Department of Health and Human Services
Post Office Box 8206
Columbia, South Carolina 29202-8206

Attention: Sheila Chavis

RE: Title XIX State Plan Amendment, SC 15-006

Dear Mr. Soura:

We have reviewed the proposed South Carolina State Plan Amendment, SC 15-006, which was submitted to the Atlanta Regional Office on December 1, 2015. The purpose of this amendment is to amend the coverage language regarding medical or other remedial care provided by licensed practitioners to include Physician Assistants.

Based on the information provided, the Medicaid State Plan Amendment SC 15-006 was approved on February 2, 2016. The effective date of this amendment is October 1, 2015. We are enclosing the approved HCFA-179 and the plan pages.

If you have any additional questions or need further assistance, please contact Maria Drake at (404) 562-3697, or Cheryl Wigfall at (803) 252-7299.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jackie Glaze".

Jackie Glaze
Associate Regional Administrator
Division of Medicaid & Children's Health Operations

Enclosures

RECEIVED
FEB 09 2016
Department of Health & Human Services
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

**TRANSMITTAL AND NOTICE OF APPROVAL OF
STATE PLAN MATERIAL**

1. TRANSMITTAL NUMBER:
SC 15-006

2. STATE
South Carolina

FOR: HEALTH CARE FINANCING ADMINISTRATION

3. PROGRAM IDENTIFICATION: TITLE XIX OF THE
SOCIAL SECURITY ACT (MEDICAID)

TO: REGIONAL ADMINISTRATOR
HEALTH CARE FINANCING ADMINISTRATION
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

4. PROPOSED EFFECTIVE DATE
October 1, 2015

5. TYPE OF PLAN MATERIAL (*Check One*):

NEW STATE PLAN AMENDMENT TO BE CONSIDERED AS NEW PLAN AMENDMENT

COMPLETE BLOCKS 6 THRU 10 IF THIS IS AN AMENDMENT (*Separate Transmittal for each amendment*)

6. FEDERAL STATUTE/REGULATION CITATION:
42 CFR 440.60

7. FEDERAL BUDGET IMPACT:
a. FFY 2016 Budget Neutral
b. FFY 2017 Budget Neutral

8. PAGE NUMBER OF THE PLAN SECTION OR ATTACHMENT:

Attachment 3.1-A Limitation Supplement, page 4a
Attachment 4.19-B, page 3

9. PAGE NUMBER OF THE SUPERSEDED PLAN SECTION
OR ATTACHMENT (*If Applicable*):

Attachment 3.1-A Limitation Supplement, page 4a
Attachment 4.19-B, page 3

10. SUBJECT OF AMENDMENT:

This State Plan amends the coverage language regarding medical or other remedial care provided by licensed practitioners to include Physician Assistants.

11. GOVERNOR'S REVIEW (*Check One*):

GOVERNOR'S OFFICE REPORTED NO COMMENT
 COMMENTS OF GOVERNOR'S OFFICE ENCLOSED
 NO REPLY RECEIVED WITHIN 45 DAYS OF SUBMITTAL

OTHER, AS SPECIFIED:
Mr. Soura was designated by the Governor
to review and approve all State Plans

12. SIGNATURE OF STATE AGENCY OFFICIAL:



13. TYPED NAME:
Christian L. Soura

14. TITLE:
Director

15. DATE SUBMITTED:
November 25, 2015

16. RETURN TO:

South Carolina Department of Health and Human Services
Post Office Box 3206
Columbia, South Carolina 29202-8206

FOR REGIONAL OFFICE USE ONLY

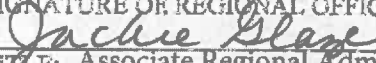
17. DATE RECEIVED:
12-01-15

18. DATE APPROVED:
02-02-16

PLAN APPROVED - ONE COPY ATTACHED

19. EFFECTIVE DATE OF APPROVED MATERIAL:
10-01-15

20. SIGNATURE OF REGIONAL OFFICIAL:



21. TYPED NAME:
Jackie Glaze

22. TITLE: Associate Regional Administrator
Division of Medicaid & Children Health Opns

23. REMARKS:

Chiropractic services must conform to policies, guidelines and limitations as specified in the Chiropractic Services Manual. Chiropractic providers are licensed practitioners and provide services within the scope of practice as defined under State law and in accordance with the requirements of CFR 440.60(a)

6.d Other Medical Care or Remedial Care Provided by Other Practitioners

Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist/AA - Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist/AA are authorized to perform anesthesia services only. The scope of their practice is limited to that which is allowed under State Law. A copy of their certification must be on file at the practice site.

Nurse Practitioner - Nurse Practitioners are authorized to perform certain services pertaining to their specific approved written protocols. The scope of their practice is limited to that which is allowed under State Law and as documented in written protocol between the nurse practitioners and their physician preceptors. The written protocol must be submitted to SHHSFC prior to enrollment.

Physician Assistant - Physician Assistants are authorized to perform certain services pertaining to their specific approved written protocols. The scope of their practice is limited to that which is allowed under State Law and as documented in written protocol between the Physician Assistants and their physician preceptors. The written protocol must be submitted to SCDHHS prior to enrollment.

Psychologists - Psychological services are covered when prescribed by an EPSDT screen and prior authorization process. Services covered include psychological testing, evaluation and therapy. Reimbursements to practitioners are restricted to psychologists that hold doctoral level diploma, and have a valid state license as a Clinical, psychologist approved by the State Board of Examiners in Psychology.

Licensed Midwife - Medicaid coverage includes all obstetrical services, newborn care and medical services that are published in the South Carolina Medicaid Physician and Clinical Services Manual, with appropriate revisions and updates. All services must be medically justified and rendered in accordance with the standards of care and services prescribed by the appropriate licensing and regulation agency(ies) under the laws of the State of South Carolina.

6.a Podiatrists' Services:

Reimbursement is calculated in the same manner as for Physicians' services (78% of the 2009 Medicare Physician fee schedule). The fee schedule payments are the same for both governmental and private providers. Medicaid bulletins informing the providers of the fee schedule rate changes, as well as the fee schedule itself, are available on the agency's website at <http://www.scdhhs.gov/ServiceProviders/FeeSchedules.asp>.

6.b Optometrists' Services (Vision Care Services):

Reimbursement is calculated in the same manner as for Physicians' services - (78% of the 2009 Medicare Physician fee schedule). The fee schedule payments are the same for both governmental and private providers. Medicaid bulletins informing the providers of the fee schedule rate changes, as well as the fee schedule itself, are available on the agency's website at <http://www.scdhhs.gov/ServiceProviders/FeeSchedules.asp>.

6.c Chiropractor's Services:

Reimbursement is calculated in the same manner as for Physicians' services (78% of the 2009 Medicare Physician fee schedule). The fee schedule payments are the same for both governmental and private providers. Medicaid bulletins informing the providers of the fee schedule rate changes, as well as the fee schedule itself, are available on the agency's website at <http://www.scdhhs.gov/ServiceProviders/FeeSchedules.asp>.

6.d Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist (CRNA): CRNAs under the medical direction of a surgeon will be reimbursed at 90 percent of the Anesthesiologist reimbursement rate. CRNAs under the medical direction of an Anesthesiologist will receive 50 percent of the reimbursement rate. Refer to the Physician Services Section 5, in Attachment 4.19-B. Medicaid bulletins informing the providers of the fee schedule rate changes, as well as the fee schedule itself, are available on the agency's website at <http://www.scdhhs.gov/ServiceProviders/FeeSchedules.asp>.

Nurse Practitioner: Reimbursement is calculated at 80 percent of the Family and General Practice Physician fee schedule, which is set at 81 percent of the 2009 Medicare Physician fee schedule. The fee schedule payments are the same for both governmental and private providers. Medicaid bulletins informing the providers of the fee schedule rate changes, as well as the fee schedule itself, are available on the agency's website at <http://www.scdhhs.gov/ServiceProviders/FeeSchedules.asp>.

Physician Assistant: Effective for services provided on or after October 1, 2015, reimbursement is calculated at 80 percent of the Family and General Practice Physician fee schedule, which is set at 81 percent of the 2009 Medicare Physician fee schedule. The fee schedule payments are the same for both governmental and private providers. Medicaid bulletins informing the providers of the fee schedule rate changes, as well as the fee schedule itself, are available on the agency's website at <http://www.scdhhs.gov/ServiceProviders/FeeSchedules.asp>.

Psychologists: Psychological services are reimbursed at an established statewide fee schedule as determined in accordance with section 13.d of Attachment 4.19-B.

Registered Dietitian: The state developed fee schedule rate for this service effective on or after April 1, 2013, is \$27.82 per encounter and is paid to both private and governmental providers. Medicaid bulletins informing the providers of the fee schedule rate changes, as well as the fee schedule itself, are available on the agency's website at <http://www.scdhhs.gov/ServiceProviders/FeeSchedules.asp>.

7. Home Health Services:

Nursing Services, Home Health Aide Services, Physical Therapy, Occupational Therapy, Speech Pathology, and Audiology are provided and reimbursed based on the lesser of allowable Medicaid costs, charges, or the Medicaid cost limits as defined in the plan that are based upon Medicare allowable cost definitions and Medicare cost limits. At the end of each Home Health Agency's fiscal year end, an actual cost report must be submitted which is used for the purpose of completing a cost settlement based on the lesser of allowable Medicare costs, charges, or the Medicare cost limits.

SC 15-006

Effective Date: 10/01/15

RO APPROVAL: 02/02/16

SUPPERSEDES: SC 13-008