TECHNICAL BULLETIN

Technical Bulletin Number: 19-03
Date: 4/14/19
Subject: Home Health Agency Rate Increases
Applies to: DDOs and Home Health Agencies

Purpose: Provide clarification regarding rate increases for services provided by Home Health Agencies (HHAs).

Background: Effective July 1, 2018, billing rates increased for personal care and homemaker services provided by HHAs.

Information: HHA rates (affecting codes S5125, S5125 U1, S5130, and S5130 TE) have increased as of July 1, 2018. Tier packages for individuals will remain the same. Individuals that use all or part of their service packages on HHA services will be allowed to exceed their tier packages by the amount necessary to compensate for these rate increases.

Existing purchase orders can remain the same. BHDDH fiscal staff will be reviewing all new and renewal purchase order submissions and will not authorize anything above the tier package that is not due to the rate increase. As is current practice, if additional services are needed, individuals and agencies must submit an S-109 request for supplemental funding.

If HHAs plan to utilize modifiers, these should be noted as accurately as possible on the submitted purchase order. Furthermore, when completing a purchase order, HHAs should use the rate that will actually billed. BHDDH staff will be reviewing utilization quarterly; if there is significant variance from the purchase order, a revised purchase order may be required for subsequent quarterly authorizations.

It is strongly encouraged that any questions or concerns be directed to the DD Fiscal Office prior to submission of a purchase to ensure timely processing.

For those individuals that use HHA services through a fiscal intermediary, additional steps may be required. Please contact the DD Fiscal Office for further instructions.

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