

Illinois Workers' Compensation Commission

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IB Pritzker, Governor

Michael J. Brennan, Chairman

ORDER

WHEREAS, Section 8.2 of the Workers' Compensation Act ("Act") requires that the Illinois Workers' Compensation Commission ("Commission") shall establish and maintain a Medical Fee Schedule of maximum reimbursements for medical care covered under the Act;

WHEREAS, Section 8.2(b) of the Act provides that "if the Commission finds that there is a significant limitation on access to quality health care in either a specific field of healthcare services or a specific geographic limitation on access to health care, it may change the Consumer Price Index-U increase or decrease for that specific field or specific geographic limitation on access to health care to address that limitation.":

WHEREAS, the Consumer Price Index increase or decrease is set forth in Section 8.2(a) of the Act, which requires that the Commission automatically increase or decrease the maximum allowable payment under the Medical Fee Schedule by the percentage change in the Consumer Price Index-U or CPI-U for the 12 month period ending August 31 of that year;

WHEREAS, in Illinois, certain advanced standalone rehabilitation hospitals that are not defined as operating as an independent acute care rehabilitation hospital (those subject to the standard DRG fee schedule under DRGs 945 & 946) and that bill on a per diem basis or other basis that aggregates charges over a period ("Advanced Standalone Rehabilitation Centers") provide treatment for the most severe work-related injuries which require complex care that other rehabilitation hospitals or facilities in Illinois cannot provide;

WHEREAS, because of their unique ability to treat catastrophic injuries, such as burns, paralysis from spinal cord injuries, amputations, and brain injuries, many inpatient rehabilitation facilities in Illinois have referred patients to an Advanced Standalone Rehabilitation Center;

WHEREAS, the Advanced Standalone Rehabilitation Centers reimbursement rates on the Commission's Medical Fee Schedule have been reduced to a level where the reimbursement rates no longer cover their costs of treating those injured in work-related accidents and the Advanced Standalone Rehabilitation Centers have indicated that the relief sought is necessary to ensure access to care;

WHEREAS, on September 9, 2024, after taking comment from Advanced Standalone Rehabilitation Centers and with advisory from the Medical Fee Advisory Board's subject matter experts, the Medical Fee Advisory Board discussed and opined on the need for an adjustment to the Advanced Standalone Rehabilitation Centers' reimbursement levels and unanimously recommended that the Commission take under consideration the below adjustments of the CPI-U based on the concerns related to access-to-care;

WHEREAS, the Advanced Standalone Rehabilitation Centers have requested that the Commission adjust the CPI-U adjustment for the following seven billing codes for Advanced Standalone Rehabilitation Centers:

ICD-9 Code / Inpatient Conditions	Reimbursement Beginning October 1, 2024
Brain Injury	\$4,100
Burns	\$3,900
Major Multiple Trauma	\$3,900
Spinal Cord Injury	\$4,100
Stroke	\$3,800
Amputation	POC 53.2%
Other	POC 53.2%

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, BY THE ILLINOIS WORKERS' COMPENSATION COMMISSION, that the seven reimbursements for the following inpatient conditions, Brain Injury, Burns, Major Multiple Trauma, Spinal Cord Injury, Stroke, Amputation, and Other for Advanced Standalone Rehabilitation Centers be modified as set forth by above to address this geographic limitation on access to health care for injured employees in this State.

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	Michael J. Brennen, Chairman	
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Amylee Simonovich, Commissioner	Raychel Wesley, Commissioner	Marc Parker, Commissioner
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Maria Portela, Commissioner	Stephen Mathis, Commissioner	Carolyn Dollerty, Commissibner
Katleugh Coeins		Martin.
Kathryn Doernies, Commissioner	Deborah Simpson, Commissioner	Christopher Harris, Commissioner
9/20/2024 Date		