

Date: May 23, 2017

Reimbursement change for hospices who utilize nursing facilities

AmeriHealth Caritas Iowa is changing the reimbursement process for hospices who utilize nursing facilities for room and board, and basic services for our members, to align with the Iowa Department of Human Services' (DHS) basis of payment. Effective June 1, 2017, AmeriHealth Caritas Iowa will reimburse hospices at 95 percent of the nursing facility's base rates, instead of 95 percent of the rate as the allowed amount.

To determine the nursing facility's base rates, hospices can refer to the [DHS' cumulative rate listing](#), or contact the nursing facility involved. A hospice's claims to AmeriHealth Caritas Iowa regarding use of a nursing facility should be 100 percent of the nursing facility's base rates. We will then pay these claims at 95 percent of the charges submitted to us, using revenue code 658.

Pass-through process

Hospice services that are provided to a member in a nursing facility are paid via a "pass-through" process where a nursing facility bills the hospice for their services to the member instead of AmeriHealth Caritas Iowa. When the hospice receives payment from AmeriHealth Caritas Iowa, the hospice forwards the payment amount to the nursing facility.

Additional details of this process are outlined in "Chapter Three, Provider-Specific Policies" then "D. Basis of Payment" in the [DHS Hospice Provider Manual](#).

Important note: AmeriHealth Caritas Iowa will not reprocess hospice pass-through claims prior to June 1, 2017.

Additional resources

[Contact your Provider Network Account Executive](#) or call Provider Services at **1-844-411-0579** for more information.

For a complete list of our provider notifications, view the [latest provider updates](#).