

Medicare B Update!

A Newsletter for Connecticut and Florida Medicare Part B Providers

Changes in Payment for Services Furnished in Ambulatory Surgical Centers for Fiscal Year 2004

This notice describes changes in payment for services furnished in Ambulatory Surgical Centers during fiscal year 2004. The information in this notice supersedes the rates posted to our provider education Web sites on October 13, 2003. It reflects changes resulting from enactment of section 626(a) of the Medicare Prescription Drug, Improvement, and Modernization Act of 2003, (MMA) on December 8, 2003.

In fiscal year 2004, beginning with April 1, 2004, the increase in ASC payment rates shall be the 2003 Consumer Price Index for all urban consumers (U.S. city average) (CPI-U) as estimated for the 12-month period ending March 31, 2003, minus 3.0 percentage points. The forecasted inflation of the CPI-U for the 12-month period ending March 31, 2003 was 3.0 percent. Therefore, the percentage increase of fiscal year 2003 ASC payment rates for fiscal year 2004 equals zero percent. Effective for services furnished on or after April 1, 2004, carriers shall revert to the ASC payment group rates that were implemented effective October 1, 2002. The wage index rates remain unchanged.

The following tables list the new rates for each of the ASC payment groups listed for each MSA and constituent counties. Claims for ASC services furnished on or after April 1, 2004, will be processed using these updated rates.

Connecticut

Urban Areas- MSA Name/ Constituent Counties	Group 1	Group 2	Group 3	Group 4	Group 5	Group 6	Group 7	Group 8	Group 9
NEW HAVEN BRIDGEPORT STAMFORD WATERBURY Danbury Fairfield New Haven	361.31	483.92	553.36	683.56	777.96	883.48	1079.60	1042.97	1452.85
Non-Urban Areas (Rest of State)	358.04	479.54	548.35	677.38	770.92	876.84	1069.83	1034.89	1439.70

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This special issue is available only on FCSCO's provider education Web sites <http://www.connecticutmedicare.com> and <http://www.floridamedicare.com>

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The Medicare B Update! should be shared with all healthcare practitioners and managerial members of the provider/supplier staff. Publications issued beginning in 1997 are available at no cost from our provider Web sites: <http://www.connecticutmedicare.com> and <http://www.floridamedicare.com>.

Routing Suggestions:

- Physician/Provider
- Office Manager
- Billing/Vendor
- Nursing Staff
- Other _____

Florida

Urban Areas-

**MSA Name/
Constituent**

Counties

	Group 1	Group 2	Group 3	Group 4	Group 5	Group 6	Group 7	Group 8	Group 9
DAYTONA BEACH	322.22	431.56	493.48	609.60	693.78	804.11	962.78	946.35	1295.64
Flagler Volusia									
FT. LAUDERDALE	338.50	453.36	518.42	640.40	728.83	837.16	1011.42	986.58	1361.10
Broward									
FT. MYERS	330.89	443.17	506.77	626.01	712.46	821.71	988.69	967.78	1330.51
CAPE CORAL Lee									
FT. PIERCE	334.42	447.91	512.18	632.69	720.06	828.89	999.25	976.52	1344.72
PORT ST. LUCIE Martin St. Lucie									
FT. WALTON BCH.	321.14	430.11	491.83	607.56	691.57	801.92	959.56	943.68	1291.30
Okaloosa									
GAINESVILLE	329.48	441.28	504.61	623.34	709.42	818.85	984.48	964.30	1324.84
Alachua									
JACKSONVILLE	327.99	439.29	502.32	620.52	706.21	815.82	980.02	960.61	1318.84
Clay Duval Nassau St. Johns									
LAKELAND	319.86	428.41	489.88	605.15	688.72	799.34	955.75	940.54	1286.18
WINTER HAVEN Polk									
MELBOURNE	330.43	442.56	506.06	625.14	711.47	820.78	987.32	966.65	1328.67
TITUSVILLE PALM BAY Brevard									
MIAMI	331.78	444.37	508.14	627.70	714.38	823.53	991.37	969.99	1334.11
Dade									
NAPLES	330.59	442.77	506.31	625.44	711.81	821.11	987.80	967.05	1329.31
Collier OCALA									
329.88	441.82	505.22	624.10	710.28	819.67	985.68	965.29	1326.45	
Marion									
ORLANDO	329.03	440.68	503.92	622.49	708.45	817.94	983.14	963.19	1323.04
Lake Orange Osceola Seminole									
PUNTA GORDA	327.38	438.47	501.39	619.37	704.90	814.59	978.20	959.11	1316.40
Charlotte									
SARASOTA	332.67	445.55	509.49	629.37	716.28	825.32	994.01	972.18	1337.66
BRADENTON Manatee Sarasota									
TAMPA	322.71	432.22	494.24	610.53	694.84	805.11	964.25	947.57	1297.62
ST. PETE CLEARWATER Hernando Hillsborough Pasco Pinellas									
WEST PALM BCH	330.68	442.90	506.45	625.62	712.01	821.30	988.08	967.27	1329.68
BOCA RATON Palm Beach									

Rural Counties

**Whose Hospitals
are Deemed Urban**

County/Urban Area

	Group 1	Group 2	Group 3	Group 4	Group 5	Group 6	Group 7	Group 8	Group 9
Indian River/ FT. PIERCE	334.42	447.91	512.18	632.69	720.06	828.89	999.25	976.52	1344.72

Non-Urban Areas

	Group 1	Group 2	Group 3	Group 4	Group 5	Group 6	Group 7	Group 8	Group 9
FLORIDA (Rest of State)	319.86	428.41	489.88	605.15	688.72	799.34	955.75	940.54	1286.18

Source: CMS Pub. 100-20 Transmittal: 51 Date: February 4, 2004 Change Request 3082