

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA**

)
THE AMERICAN HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION,)
ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN MEDICAL)
COLLEGES, MERCY HEALTH MUSKEGON,)
CLALLAM COUNTY PUBLIC HOSPITAL)
NO. 2 d/b/a/ OLYMPIC MEDICAL CENTER,)
and YORK HOSPITAL,)

Plaintiffs,

v.

)
)
ALEX M. AZAR II,)
in his official capacity as SECRETARY OF)
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES,)

Defendant.

Civil Action No. 1:18-cv-2841

ORAL HEARING REQUESTED

PLAINTIFFS’ MOTION FOR SUMMARY JUDGMENT

Pursuant to Rule 56 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure and Local Rule 7(h), Plaintiffs the American Hospital Association, the Association of American Medical Colleges, Mercy Health Muskegon, Olympic Medical Center, and York Hospital respectfully request that this Court enter summary judgment in Plaintiffs’ favor because, in promulgating the “Changes to Hospital Outpatient Prospective Payment and Ambulatory Surgical Center Payment Systems and Quality Reporting Programs” Final Rule for Calendar Year 2019 (Final Rule), the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) far exceeded the scope of the powers delegated to the agency by Congress.

CMS’s conduct is *ultra vires* for two central reasons. *First*, the Medicare statute mandates that changes to payments for covered hospital outpatients services that target only specific items or services must be budget neutral. 42 U.S.C. § 1395l(t)(9)(B). And yet the Final

Rule purports to do precisely what Congress expressly prohibited: CMS seeks to reduce total payments for covered hospital outpatient services by hundreds of millions of dollars per year by targeting a select group of services (*i.e.*, clinic visit services at excepted off-campus provider-based departments) for *non-budget-neutral* payment adjustments. CMS cannot exercise its limited authority in a manner so flagrantly inconsistent with the Medicare statute.

Second, in the Medicare statute, Congress has laid out a clear distinction between “excepted” off-campus provider-based departments, which meet specified grandfathering requirements, and “non-excepted” off-campus provider-based departments, which do not. The statute makes clear that services provided at excepted and non-excepted off-campus provider-based departments should be paid pursuant to different payment systems. 42 U.S.C. § 1395l(t)(21)(C). And yet the Final Rule effectively abolishes any distinction between excepted and non-excepted entities by subjecting them both to the same payment system and rate. That violates the clear intent of Congress and therefore is *ultra vires*.

For these reasons, and those set forth more fully in the accompanying Memorandum in Support, which is incorporated herein by reference, this Court should grant Plaintiffs’ motion for summary judgment. Pursuant to Local Rule 7(f), Plaintiffs further request an oral hearing on this motion, given the importance of this issues and the complexity of the underlying regulatory scheme. A proposed order accompanies this motion.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: February 1, 2019

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that on February 1, 2019, the foregoing was electronically filed through this Court's CM/ECF system, which will send a notice of filing to all registered users.

/s/ Catherine E. Stetson
Catherine E. Stetson

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<i>Plaintiffs,</i>))
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v.)	Civil Action No. 1:18-cv-2841
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ALEX M. AZAR II,))
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HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES,))
))
<i>Defendant.</i>))
<hr/>)

**MEMORANDUM OF POINTS AND AUTHORITIES IN SUPPORT OF
PLAINTIFFS' MOTION FOR SUMMARY JUDGMENT**

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INTRODUCTION

Administrative agencies may act only within the constraints of the legislative authority delegated to them by Congress. And where Congress has specifically constrained an agency's authority, agencies may not take action in excess of their statutory power. These are basic tenets of administrative law. The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) has run afoul of these core principles by cutting certain Medicare payments in clear violation of statutory limits on the agency's power.

On November 21, CMS published in the Federal Register a Final Rule making changes to Medicare payment rates for outpatient services for Calendar Year (CY) 2019. As relevant here, the Final Rule reduces the payment rates for certain clinic-visit services provided at hospital outpatient practice locations known as "off-campus provider-based departments" (off-campus PBDs). Off-campus PBDs are practice locations of a hospital that are not located in immediate proximity to the main building of their affiliated hospital, but are nonetheless so closely integrated with and controlled by the main hospital as to be considered a part of the hospital.

In 2015, Congress amended the Medicare statute to provide that outpatient services furnished at off-campus PBDs would be subject to a separate payment system than the one governing hospitals. However, Congress recognized that this change would unsettle the expectations of off-campus PBDs that were already billing under the hospital payment system. So Congress struck a compromise: Qualifying off-campus PBDs that were already billing under the hospital payment system (so-called "excepted PBDs") would be excepted from the new payment system. But going forward, Congress required that *newly* created or acquired off-campus PBDs (so-called "non-excepted PBDs") be paid under a different payment system, resulting in lower payment rates to those hospitals.

CMS apparently thinks otherwise. In the Final Rule, CMS announced its decision to reduce overall Medicare payments for hospital outpatient services. The agency accomplished this goal *not* by making across-the-board cuts to all payment rates for outpatient services—the only mechanism the Medicare statute contemplates for non-budget-neutral payment cuts for outpatient services—but instead by making selective cuts to the payment rates for particular services. Specifically, CMS cut the payment rate for clinic visit services provided by *excepted* PBDs so that they are now equal to the (lower) payment rate for *non-excepted* PBDs.

The payment reductions contemplated by the Final Rule contravene the clear statutory safeguards Congress crafted to constrain CMS’s authority. In short: They are *ultra vires*.

CMS has exceeded the boundaries of its delegated authority in two major ways. First, the Final Rule is unlawful because it is not budget neutral. Congress has established a clear structure for CMS to make annual changes to payments for covered hospital outpatient services under Medicare. 42 U.S.C. § 1395l(t)(9)(A). Changes to payments that target only specific items or services must be budget neutral. *Id.* § 1395l(t)(9)(B). And yet the Final Rule purports to do precisely what Congress expressly prohibited: CMS seeks to reduce total payments for covered hospital outpatient services by hundreds of millions of dollars per year by targeting a select group of services (*i.e.*, clinic visit services at excepted PBDs) for *non-budget-neutral* payment adjustments. CMS cannot exercise its limited authority in a manner so flagrantly inconsistent with the Medicare statute.

Second, by subjecting excepted and non-excepted PBDs to the exact same payment system and payment rate, the Final Rule abolishes the statutory distinction between those two entities. Congress intentionally created two classes of off-campus PBDs: excepted and non-excepted ones, with the clear expectation that they would be paid differently for performing

outpatient services. Indeed, the only logical purpose for creating the two categories of entities was to grandfather excepted PBDs into the higher payment system applicable to hospitals. CMS's attempt to override the statutory distinction between these two types of entities violates the clear intent of Congress and therefore is *ultra vires*.x

FACTUAL BACKGROUND

Statutory Framework

Title XVIII of the Social Security Act establishes a program of health insurance for the aged and disabled, commonly known as the Medicare Act. 42 U.S.C. § 1395 *et seq.* The Medicare Act comprises four parts. Part B covers, among other things, hospital outpatient department services (OPD services), which are services that are provided to patients on an outpatient basis. OPD services include emergency or observation services; services furnished in an outpatient setting (*e.g.*, physician visits, same-day surgery); laboratory tests billed by the hospital for outpatients; medical supplies (*e.g.*, splints and casts); preventive and screening services; and certain drugs and biologicals.

Medicare payments for OPD services are generally made under the Outpatient Prospective Payment System (OPPS), governed by 42 U.S.C. § 1395l(t). Congress specified the framework under which CMS was required to establish the OPPS in Subsections (t)(2)(A) through (H). Congress also authorized CMS to review and revise, on an annual basis, the “groups, the relative payment weights, and the wage and other adjustments” related to covered OPD services “to take into account changes in medical practice, changes in technology, the addition of new services, new cost data, and other relevant information and factors.” *Id.* § 1395l(t)(9)(A).

The Medicare statute sets clear limits on these annual adjustments. Those limits include the one at issue here: any such adjustments must be budget-neutral. Specifically, Congress

mandated: “[T]he adjustments for a year may not cause the estimated amount of expenditures under this part for the year to increase or decrease from the estimated amount of expenditures under this part that would have been made if the adjustments had not been made.” 42 U.S.C. § 1395l(t)(9)(A). That is a mouthful, but its meaning is plain: Any adjustments under Subsection (t)(9)(A) must be budget neutral, and CMS may not reduce the total amount of Medicare Part B spending by selectively slashing the payment rates for specific types of services.

If CMS wishes to make *non*-budget-neutral cuts to payments under the OPSS, the statute provides a separate mechanism for the agency to do so, with clear limits on both when and how that non-budget-neutral authority could be exercised. First, the statute authorizes CMS to “develop a method for controlling unnecessary increases in the volume of covered OPD services.” 42 U.S.C. § 1395l(t)(2)(F). Only after the agency develops that method, another statutory provision authorizes CMS to make non-budget-neutral changes to address the unnecessary increases in volume—but even then only through an across-the-board adjustment to all items or services paid under the OPSS.

Specifically, Subsection (t)(9)(C) provides that if CMS determines under Subsection (t)(2)(F) that the “volume of services ... [has] increased beyond amounts established through those methodologies,” CMS “may appropriately adjust the update to the conversion factor otherwise applicable in a subsequent year.” *Id.* § 1395l(t)(9)(C). The conversion factor, which is updated annually, is a uniform amount that is used in the formula to calculate payment rates for *all* services or items paid under the OPSS. *Id.* § 1395l(t)(3)(C), (D). In other words, an adjustment to the conversion factor can shrink (or grow) the entire OPSS by a percentage-factor, but it cannot reduce the relative rate of payment for a particular set of services or items.

The upshot of Congress's chosen statutory structure is clear: If CMS wants to reduce outlays under OPSS, it must cut payments across the board, for all OPSS services and items, by lowering the conversion factor. In other words, if CMS wants to reduce the size of the pie, each slice can be made slightly smaller. If CMS instead wants to reduce payment for specific services (*i.e.*, to slice the pie differently), it must do so in a budget-neutral manner, by increasing payments for other services so that the pie remains the same size. But CMS *cannot* do both at the same time. In this way, the statute's structure prevents CMS from engaging in cost-control measures that will have a disproportionate impact on only some service providers and beneficiaries.

Off-Campus Provider-Based Departments

At issue in this lawsuit are Medicare payments for certain clinic-visit services provided by off-campus PBDs. As previously noted, off-campus PBDs are practice locations of a hospital that are not in immediate proximity to the main building of their affiliated hospital, but are nonetheless so closely integrated with and controlled by that hospital as to be considered a part of the hospital. *See* 42 C.F.R. § 413.65(e). An off-campus PBD may serve a range of critical healthcare functions and take various forms, including a stand-alone oncology clinic, an urgent care clinic, or a physician practice providing necessary specialty services (*e.g.*, cardiology, pulmonology, neurology, and urology).

Off-campus PBDs provide several unique advantages to patients and allow hospitals to better serve their communities. In some cases, there may be operational reasons for using an off-campus PBD. For example, a hospital might want to place an off-campus PBD in a location that is convenient to an under-served patient population. In other cases, a hospital may lack the space on its main campus to expand, and an off-campus PBD is opened as a matter of necessity. In

rural and other traditionally underserved areas of the country, allowing hospitals to expand their capabilities through off-campus PBDs often means that patients have access to care that they otherwise would not. *See generally* Declaration of Joanna Hiatt Kim (AHA Decl.) ¶ 10.

By law, off-campus PBDs must be integrated with their main hospitals and are subject to the same regulatory requirements as the hospital—unlike independent clinics or physician offices. *See* 42 C.F.R. § 413.65 (describing detailed regulatory requirements for off-campus facilities). As a result, off-campus PBDs typically have higher costs relative to a physician office. There are many reasons for this: The patient population that depends on the care provided at off-campus PBDs tends to be sicker and poorer than the patient population that visits independent physician offices.¹ In addition, CMS regulations require that off-campus PBDs comply with the same Medicare Conditions of Participation governing their affiliated hospital. These requirements are more demanding than those for physician offices and clinics.² Moreover, off-campus PBDs serve a greater number of functions than do standalone physician offices, providing advantages in the care for patients.

Section 603 of the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2015

Until November 2015, clinic-visit services at all off-campus PBDs were paid under the OPSS, at the relatively higher payment rates paid to hospitals (as compared to the rates for their physician-office counterparts). 83 Fed. Reg. 59,004–05 (Nov. 21, 2018). The total volume of outpatient services furnished at off-campus PBDs nationwide has been increasing for years, since at least 2010. *Id.* at 59,005–007. Much of that increase in volume has been necessary and

¹ *See* Comparison of Care in Hospital Outpatient Departments and Independent Physician Offices (KNG Health Consulting LLC, 2018), *available at* <https://bit.ly/2Ed4Iaf>.

² *See generally* Hospital Outpatient Department (HOPD) Costs Higher Than Physician Offices Due to Additional Capabilities, Regulations (AHA, 2014), *available at* <https://bit.ly/2DnkFtb>.

appropriate. The Medicare-eligible population as a whole has increased during that same time period, imposing greater demands for OPD services. *See Medicare Board of Trustees, 2018 Annual Report of the Board of Trustees of the Federal Hospital Insurance and Federal Supplementary Medical Insurance Trust Funds* 181 (2018) (increase of approximately 9.5 million Medicare Part B enrollees from 2010 to 2017 alone).³ In addition, medical technology has advanced in parallel with these demographic changes, enabling more and more services to be provided on an outpatient (rather than an inpatient) basis. *See Ken Abrams, Andreea Balan-Cohen & Priyanshi Durbha, Growth in Outpatient Care*, Deloitte (Aug. 15, 2018).⁴

In addition, however, one of the many factors contributing to the increase in volume of outpatient services furnished at off-campus PBDs was the acquisition of standalone physician offices by some hospitals, and the subsequent integration of those physician offices into hospital operations. *See* 83 Fed. Reg. 59,005–007. That phenomenon had the effect of shifting some services that otherwise would have been provided in the physician office setting to the off-campus PBD setting. 83 Fed. Reg. 59,008. CMS has long taken the view that Medicare costs could be lowered if outpatient services performed by off-campus PBDs were instead furnished in the generally less-expensive setting of a physician’s office. *See id.* The agency has contended that off-campus PBDs should therefore be treated the same as physician offices and paid under the Medicare Physician Fee Schedule (PFS) rather than the OPFS. *See id.* In response, commenters pointed out that off-campus PBDs typically have higher costs than physician offices (in some cases even exceeding the Medicare payment rate for such services) and that off-campus PBDs are often able to provide services that are not available in physician offices. Critics of CMS’s position also noted that paying off-campus PBDs at the lower rates paid to physician

³ Available at <https://go.cms.gov/2JottiO>.

⁴ Available at <https://bit.ly/2nOkG05>.

offices would upset the reasonable expectations of hospitals that acquired or built off-campus PBDs, and conformed those hospital-affiliated departments with rigorous and detailed regulatory requirements, with the understanding that they would be paid under the OPPS.⁵

Congress sought to address these competing concerns when it enacted Section 603 of the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2015. Pub. L. No 114-74 § 603, 129 Stat. 584, 598. Its solution was to create two classes of off-campus PBDs. Qualifying off-campus PBDs that were billing as hospital departments under the OPPS when the Act became law on November 2, 2015 (referred to as “excepted PBDs”) would continue to be paid under the OPPS. *See* 42 U.S.C. §§ 1395l(t)(1)(B)(V), (t)(21) & (t)(21)(B)(ii). But going forward, Congress required that *newly* created or acquired off-campus PBDs (referred to as “non-excepted PBDs”) be paid under the “applicable payment system” in order to eliminate the possibility that a payment differential would motivate a hospital’s decision to open a new off-campus PBD. *Id.* § 1395l(t)(21)(C); *see also id.* § 1395l(t)(21)(B)(iii)–(vi) (codifying additional exceptions, such as allowing off-campus PBDs that were mid-build when Section 603 was enacted to continue to be paid under the OPPS).

CMS has since interpreted the statutory phrase “applicable payment system” to mean that non-excepted PBDs should be paid under the Medicare Physician Fee Schedule. 81 Fed. Reg. 79,562, 79,659 (Nov. 14, 2016). The Physician Fee Schedule has lower payment rates relative to OPPS because it is intended to reflect the costs for furnishing items or services in a physician

⁵ *Cf.* Letter from the Honorable Rob Portman, Senator, United States Senate, et al. to Seema Verma, Administrator, Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (Sept. 28, 2018) (“In passing Section 603, Congress was clear in its intention to grandfather existing facilities, so that only new off-campus sites would have payments reduced.”), *available at* <https://bit.ly/2R9yOle>.

office as opposed to in a hospital.⁶ Thus, the payment rates for excepted PBDs (under the OPPS) are generally higher than non-excepted PBDs (under the Physician Fee Schedule). 83 Fed. Reg. 59,008.

In practice, CMS does not actually abide by the statutory requirement to pay non-excepted PBDs under a separate payment system from OPPS. Rather, CMS continues to pay such non-excepted PBDs under the OPPS but applies a “PFS Relativity Adjustor,” which CMS says is intended to approximate what the rate of payment “would have been” if the item or service were actually paid under the Physician Fee Schedule. *See generally* 81 Fed. Reg. 79,562, 79,726 (Nov. 14, 2016); *see also* 83 Fed. Reg. 59,009.

The Final Rule

Against this backdrop, on July 31, CMS issued a Proposed Rule proposing changes to the OPPS for Calendar Year 2019, titled “Changes to Hospital Outpatient Prospective Payment and Ambulatory Surgical Center Payment Systems and Quality Reporting Programs.” As relevant here, CMS proposed that the payment rate for certain clinic-visit services provided at *excepted* PBDs be reduced to render it equal to the payment rate for services provided at *non-excepted* PBDs (referred to as the Clinic Visit Policy). 83 Fed. Reg. 37,046, 37,142 (July 31, 2018). Specifically, the Proposed Rule provided that the payment rate for clinic services furnished by excepted off-campus PBDs in CY 2019 “would now be equivalent to the payment rate for” services provided by non-excepted off-campus PBDs. *Id.* CMS estimated that this change would result in a decrease in overall payments to hospitals under the OPPS by \$760 million in CY 2019 *alone*. *Id.* at 37,143. But CMS maintained that it had the authority to make this

⁶ *See* 83 Fed. Reg. 59,006–008 (citing MedPAC, Report to the Congress: Medicare Payment Policy (Mar. 2018), *available at* <https://bit.ly/2FNIitVG>).

equalizing adjustment in a non-budget-neutral fashion—that is, without an off-setting increase in payment rates for other OPPS services. *Id.* at 37,142.

Almost 3,000 commenters submitted comments in response to the Proposed Rule, including Plaintiffs AHA and AAMC. Among other things, Plaintiffs pointed out that CMS lacks the statutory authority to adjust payment rates in a non-budget-neutral manner under 42 U.S.C. § 1395l(t)(9)(B). Plaintiffs also explained that the Proposed Rule ran afoul of Congress’s statutory mandate that CMS treat excepted and non-excepted off-campus PBDs differently.

The Final Rule was published in the Federal Register on November 21. 83 Fed. Reg. 58,818. Like the Proposed Rule, the Final Rule adjusts the payment rate for services provided by excepted PBDs so that it is “equal to” the payment rate for services provided by non-excepted PBDs. *Id.* at 58,822, 59,013. CMS also confirmed its decision to implement the adjustment in a non-budget neutral fashion, targeting only a select group of services. *Id.* at 59,014. However, CMS announced that it would be phasing in the payment reduction over a two-year period; in the first year, CY 2019, the estimated reductions in payments to hospitals would be approximately \$380 million. *Id.* Around the same time it announced the Final Rule, CMS issued a press release stressing that the Final Rule would result in “lower costs” and “an estimated amount of \$380 million” in “savings for the Medicare program” overall.⁷

Absent Judicial Relief, Plaintiffs Will Suffer Concrete and Imminent Harm

The Final Rule became effective on January 1, 2019. The Plaintiff-Hospitals and the Plaintiffs AHA’s and AAMC’s members have already begun to feel the effects of CMS’s patently *ultra vires* conduct. Many hospitals rely heavily on the structure of Medicare payments

⁷ Press Release, *CMS Finalizes Medicare Hospital Outpatient Prospective Payment System and Ambulatory Surgical Center Payment System changes for 2019 (CMS-1695-FC)*, CMS.Gov (Nov. 2, 2018), available at <https://go.cms.gov/2CW9jw6>.

established by Congress to provide critical outpatient services for the vulnerable populations in their communities, many of whom have been historically underserved. AHA Decl. ¶ 8; Declaration of Janis M. Orłowski (AAMC Decl.) ¶ 6; Declaration of Eric Lewis (Olympic Decl.) ¶¶ 4, 9–14; Declaration of Kristi K. Nagengast (Mercy Decl.) ¶ 8; Declaration of Jud Knox (York Decl.) ¶¶ 4, 7. By reducing the payment rate for covered services provided at excepted PBDs, the Final Rule will force serious payment reductions on affected hospitals, which in turn may cause those hospitals to make difficult decisions about whether to reduce services. *See, e.g.*, AHA Decl. ¶ 9; AAMC Decl. ¶ 6; Olympic Decl. ¶¶ 9–14; Mercy Decl. ¶¶ 7–9. By CMS’s own estimate, this amount will total approximately \$380 million in CY 2019 alone. 83 Fed. Reg. 59,014. This payment reduction is particularly troubling for hospitals already operating at low or negative margins. AHA Decl. ¶ 10; Olympic Decl. ¶¶ 8–14; Mercy Decl. ¶ 8.

For all of these reasons, affected hospitals and the vulnerable patients and communities they serve face concrete and imminent harms—both economic and noneconomic—if CMS’s Final rule is allowed to stand.

ARGUMENT

It is a fundamental principle of administrative law that federal agencies may not act unless authorized to do so by Congress. “Under our system of government, Congress makes laws and the President, acting at times through agencies . . . ‘faithfully execute[s]’ them.” *Utility Air Regulatory Grp. v. EPA*, 134 S. Ct. 2427, 2445 (2014) (*citing* U.S. Const., art. II, § 3). In keeping with this constitutional principle, federal agencies may promulgate rules only to the extent authorized to do so by Congress. *See Bowen v. Georgetown Univ. Hosp.*, 488 U.S. 204, 208 (1988) (“It is axiomatic that an administrative agency’s power to promulgate legislative regulations is limited to the authority delegated by Congress.”); *Lyng v. Payne*, 476 U.S. 926,

937 (1986) (“an agency’s power is no greater than that delegated to it by Congress”). Federal agencies similarly lack the authority to override Congress’s clear commands. *See Utility Air*, 134 S. Ct. at 2445 (“An agency has no power to ‘tailor’ legislation to bureaucratic policy goals by rewriting unambiguous statutory terms.”).

When a federal agency acts in blatant excess of its statutory authority, that action is *ultra vires* and should be vacated. *See, e.g., Aid Ass’n for Lutherans v. U.S. Postal Serv.*, 321 F.3d 1166, 1168 (D.C. Cir. 2003) (agency action is *ultra vires* when it “exceed[s] the agency’s delegated authority under the statute.”); *Dart v. United States*, 848 F.2d 217, 224 (D.C. Cir. 1988) (agency violation of “clear and mandatory” statutory provision is *ultra vires*). *See also Leedom v. Kyne*, 358 U.S. 184, 188 (1958) (recognizing a cause of action where plaintiff is not merely seeking “review” of agency decision made within its jurisdiction but rather “to strike down” agency action “made in excess of its delegated powers and contrary to a specific prohibition” in the statute). CMS’s conduct here easily meets this standard.

I. THE FINAL RULE EXCEEDS CMS’S AUTHORITY BECAUSE THE CLINIC VISIT POLICY IS NOT BUDGET NEUTRAL.

First and foremost, the Final Rule is *ultra vires* because the Clinic Visit Policy is not budget neutral, in plain violation of the statute. As a result, the Final Rule transgresses “the core administrative-law principle” that an agency lacks the authority to override Congress’s commands. *See Utility Air*, 134 S. Ct. at 2446.

The Medicare statute makes clear that if CMS wishes to make changes to the payment rate for individual OPD services, it must do so “in a budget neutral manner.” 42 U.S.C. § 1395l(t)(9)(B). Conversely, if CMS wishes to reduce Medicare costs by cutting payment rates to address “unnecessary increases in the volume of services,” it must do so across-the-board, to all covered services. *Id.* §§ 1395(t)(2)(F), 1395l(t)(9)(C). By requiring budget neutrality for

payment reductions targeting only specific services, the statute recognizes—and puts a check on—any incentive for CMS to employ draconian cost-control measures that target only certain service providers.

And yet the Final Rule announces cuts to the payment rates for specific services without creating any off-setting increases to other payment rates. By CMS’s own admission, the Clinic Visit Policy set forth in the Final Rule would reduce total hospital payments by \$380 million in CY 2019, with no offsetting increases in payments for other services. 83 Fed. Reg. at 59,014. But by reducing payment rates for selected services in a non-budget-neutral fashion, CMS flatly ignores “clear statutory terms to suit its own sense of how the statute should operate.” *Utility Air*, 134 S. Ct. at 2446. It also reflects “an attempted exercise of power that had been specifically withheld.” *Leedom v. Kyne*, 358 U.S. at 189. The Final Rule is therefore *ultra vires*.

In an effort to sidestep the statutory requirement that annual adjustments be budget neutral, CMS has claimed that its authority to adopt the Clinic Visit Policy flows *not* from the annual adjustment authority granted in Subsection (t)(9)(A), but instead from the agency’s separate statutory authorization under Subsection (t)(2)(F) to develop a “method” for controlling unnecessary increases in the volume of services covered under the OPPS. *See* 83 Fed. Reg. 59,011.

CMS purports to ground the Clinic Visit Policy in Subsection (t)(2)(F) for a strategic purpose: that provision, unlike the rest of Subsection (t), makes no express mention of budget neutrality. For good reason, though. Subsection (t)(2)(F) does not need to address budget neutrality because it does not actually authorize the agency to make any adjustments or changes to payment rates at all. Instead, it merely authorizes CMS to “*develop a method* for controlling unnecessary increases in the volume of covered OPD services.” 42 U.S.C. § 1395l(t)(2)(F)

(emphasis added). Another statutory provision governs how that method may be *used* in actual volume-control efforts.

Specifically, Subsection (t)(9)(C) addresses what CMS should do if it wants to cut payment rates based on a finding under Subsection (t)(2)(F) that there are unnecessary increases in the volume of services: “If the Secretary determines under the methodologies described in paragraph (2)(F) that the volume of services paid for under this subsection increased beyond amounts established through those methodologies, the Secretary may appropriately *adjust the update to the conversion factor* otherwise applicable in a subsequent year.” *Id.* § 1395l(t)(9)(C) (emphasis added). The conversion factor, which is updated annually by CMS, is “calculated by use of a complex formula that takes into account the overall state of the economy of the United States, the number of Medicare beneficiaries, the amount of money spent in prior years, and changes in the regulations governing covered services.” *See* D.J. Seidenwurm & J.H. Burleson, *The Medicare Conversion Factor*, 35 *Am. J. Neuroradiology* 242, 242–243 (2014).⁸ The conversion factor applies broadly to affect payments for *all* covered services under the OPPS. 42 U.S.C. §1395l(t)(2)(C) and (D). As such, it cannot be used to change the relative payment rates between and among individual services.

CMS’s “far-fetched” understanding of its authority under Subsection (t)(2)(F) is possible only “through an unintuitive, creative reading” of the statutory framework that would require this Court to assume, contrary to the text and purpose of these provisions, that when Congress “expressly spelled out” how CMS could make selective cuts in Subsection (t)(9)(A), it nevertheless implied a directly contrary power by remaining “utterly silent” in Subsection (t)(2)(F). *See Philip Morris USA Inc. v. United States Food & Drug Admin.*, 202 F. Supp. 3d 31,

⁸ Available at <https://bit.ly/2DFJhyp>.

52 (D.D.C. 2016). Had Congress meant to construct “a backdoor means” around the budget-neutrality limitation, however, one “would expect to see some affirmative indication” that it intended to do so. *Czyzewski v. Jevic Holding Corp.*, 137 S. Ct. 973, 984 (2017).

While the statute is clear on its face, it is nonetheless noteworthy that the legislative history supports its plain meaning. Subsection (t) was added to the statute by the Balanced Budget Act of 1997. The associated conference report explains that, under Subsection (t):

The Secretary would be authorized to periodically review and revise the groups, relative payment weights, and the wage and other adjustments to take into account changes in medical practice, medical technology, the addition of new services, new cost data, and other relevant information. Any adjustments made by the Secretary would be made in a budget neutral manner. *If the Secretary determined that the volume of services paid for under this subsection increased beyond amounts established through those methodologies, the Secretary would be authorized to adjust the update to the conversion factor otherwise applicable in a subsequent year.*

Balanced Budget Act of 1997, H.R. Rep. No. 105-217, at 784 (Conf. Rep.) (emphasis added).

And finally, lest there be any remaining doubt, CMS has effectively admitted the limitations of Subsection (t)(2)(F) in the past. For example, in 1998, CMS acknowledged that “possible legislative modification” would be necessary before it could use its authority under Subsection (t)(2)(F) to adopt measures that would implement adjustments other than those to the conversion factor. 63 Fed. Reg. 47,552, 47,586 (Sept. 8, 1998). Similarly, in 2001, CMS implicitly acknowledged that the agency’s options for implementing adjustments based on a finding under Subsection (t)(2)(F) were limited to updates to the conversion factor. 66 Fed. Reg. 59,856, 59,908 (Nov. 30, 2001) (“[S]ection 1833(t)(2)(F) requires the Secretary to develop a method for controlling unnecessary increases in the volume of covered hospital outpatient services, and section 1833(t)(9)(C) authorizes the Secretary to adjust the update to the conversion

factor if the volume of services increased beyond the amount established under section 1833(t)(2)(F).”). CMS thus has acknowledged that changes to payment rates resulting from Subsection (t)(2)(F) must occur pursuant to an across-the-board change in the conversion factor. That is telling.

Contrary to CMS’s present assertion, then, Subsection (t)(2)(F) does not confer authority to modify payment rates for specific items or services in response to unnecessary increases in the volume of OPD services. Rather, as noted above, if the methodology developed by CMS under Subsection (t)(2)(F) shows that there are unnecessary increases in the volume of OPD services, Congress has said in Subsection (t)(9)(C) that CMS’s recourse is to modify the conversion factor and effectuate an across-the-board reduction in payment rates under the OPPS. And to state the obvious, in crafting the Clinic Visit Policy, CMS has not adjusted the conversion factor,⁹ nor has it cut payment rates across-the-board. Instead, it has cut the payment rates for a targeted subset of services. In short, Subsection (t)(2)(F) is of no use to CMS in justifying the Final Rule.

II. THE FINAL RULE EXCEEDS CMS’S AUTHORITY BECAUSE IT ERASES THE STATUTORY DISTINCTION BETWEEN EXCEPTED AND NON-EXCEPTED PBDs.

The Final Rule also separately is *ultra vires* because it sets the same payment rate for clinic visit services provided at both excepted and non-excepted PBDs, in violation of Congress’s statutory command. Specifically, the Final Rule provides that the payment rate for services furnished at excepted PBDs will be adjusted so that it would be “equal to” the payment rate for services provided at non-excepted PBDs. 83 Fed. Reg. 59,013.

⁹ In fact, CMS has separately adjusted the conversion factor elsewhere in the Final Rule. *See* 83 Fed. Reg. 58,861.

But the Medicare statute requires CMS to pay excepted and non-excepted PBDs differently for clinic visit services. The statute creates two distinct categories of off-campus PBDs: excepted entities, which satisfy certain grandfathering requirements, and non-excepted entities. *See* 42 U.S.C. § 1395l(t)(21). Congress created that distinction in order to fashion a grandfather provision for excepted PBDs, allowing entities that had been billing before November 2015 to continue billing under the OPSS, while non-excepted entities would be subject to a different payment system (later determined by CMS to be the Medicare Physician Fee Schedule). *See id.* § 1395l(t)(21)(C); H.R. Rep. No. 114-604, at 10 (2016).

Congress necessarily understood and clearly intended that these separate payment *systems* would entail separate payment *rates*. Indeed, the only logical reason for mandating that the two classes of off-campus PBDs be subjected to different billing systems was to ensure that different payment rates would apply.¹⁰ CMS itself has effectively acknowledged as much by requiring non-excepted PBDs to continue to bill through the OPSS billing system (notwithstanding the plain language of the statute) and instead using a “PFS Relativity Adjustor,” to approximate what the rate of payment “would have been” if the item or service were actually paid under the Physician Fee Schedule. *See generally* 81 Fed. Reg. 79,562, 79,726 (Nov. 14, 2016); *see also* 83 Fed. Reg. 59,009.

Moreover, from a statutory interpretation standpoint, it would be implausible to suppose that the statutory distinction between excepted and non-excepted PBDs is meaningless and can

¹⁰ While not dispositive of Congress’s intent when crafting Section 603 in 2015, it is nonetheless notable that when Congress amended Section 603 through the 21 Century Cures Act in 2016, a Conference Report described the “practical effect” of Section 603 as follows: “new off-campus PBD HOPDs would be eligible for only physician fee schedule or ambulatory surgical center payment rates rather than the higher hospital outpatient payment rate.” H.R. Rep. No. 114-604, at 10 (2016).

simply be ignored. *See Independent Ins. Agents of America, Inc. v. Hawke*, 211 F.3d 638, 644 (D.C. Cir. 2000) (“all words in a statute are to be assigned meaning, and . . . nothing therein is to be construed as surplusage”). Put simply: Had Congress intended to allow CMS to treat excepted and non-excepted PBDs the same, it would have drawn no statutory distinction between these entities at all. And yet it did.

By decreeing that excepted and non-excepted entities will not only be billed under the same payment system but now also be subject to the same payment *rate*, CMS has entirely abolished the statutory separateness put in place by the statute, performing an end-run around the congressional mandate. The agency lacks the authority to nullify the Medicare statute in this manner. Agencies are “bound, not only by the ultimate purposes Congress has selected, but by the means it has deemed appropriate, and prescribed, for the pursuit of those purposes.” *Colorado River Indian Tribes v. Nat’l Indian Gaming Comm’n*, 466 F.3d 134, 139–140 (D.C. Cir. 2006).

CMS purports to justify its Clinic Visit Policy with a resort to policy arguments. The agency explains: “To the extent that similar services can be safely provided in more than one setting, we do not believe it is prudent for the Medicare program to pay more for these services in one setting than another.” 83 Fed. Reg. 59,008; *see also id.* at 58,823, 59,011. That may or may not be true as a matter of medical practice and regulatory policy—but it is not the solution that Congress chose. The Medicare Act reflects Congress’s deliberate decision to treat excepted and non-excepted PBDs differently, and to grandfather excepted PBDs so that they would continue to receive payment at hospital rates rather than physician office rates. CMS does not have the authority to do away with that statutory distinction merely because it disagrees with Congress. Policy preferences do not “give the agency carte blanche to ignore the statute”

whenever the agency decides statutory “requirements aren’t worth the trouble.” *Waterkeeper All. v. EPA*, 853 F.3d 527, 535 (D.C. Cir. 2017).

To the contrary. When Congress dictates policy, agencies must follow that mandate. *See Utility Air.*, 134 S. Ct. at 2446 (“[A]n agency may not rewrite clear statutory terms to suit its own sense of how the statute should operate.”); *Ragsdale v. Wolverine World Wide, Inc.*, 535 U.S. 81, 91 (2002) (“Regardless of how serious the problem an administrative agency seeks to address, . . . it may not exercise its authority in a manner that is inconsistent with the administrative structure that Congress enacted into law.”) (citing *FDA v. Brown & Williamson Tobacco Corp.*, 529 U.S. 120, 125 (2000)). Whatever advantages CMS may believe inure to a different approach, it lacks the power to override its statutory mandate when Congress has already set the agency’s course.

Because Congress established a clear division between excepted and non-excepted off-campus PBDs, CMS’s attempt to override that statutory distinction by paying both entities the same rate is *ultra vires*.

CONCLUSION

The Clinic Visit Policy set forth in the Final Rule is *ultra vires* because CMS has exceeded the statutory authority delegated to the agency by Congress. This Court should grant Plaintiffs' Motion for Summary Judgment, vacate the relevant portions of the Final Rule, enjoin CMS from enforcing the Clinic Visit Policy, and order CMS to provide immediate repayment of any amounts improperly withheld as a result of the agency's unauthorized conduct.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Catherine E. Stetson

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*Counsel for the American Hospital Association,
Association of American Medical Colleges, Mercy
Health Muskegon, Olympic Medical Center, and
York Hospital*

Dated: February 1, 2019

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that on February 1, 2019, the foregoing was electronically filed through this Court's CM/ECF system, which will send a notice of filing to all registered users.

/s/ Catherine E. Stetson
Catherine E. Stetson

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

THE AMERICAN HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION,
ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN MEDICAL
COLLEGES, MERCY HEALTH MUSKEGON,
CLALLAM COUNTY PUBLIC HOSPITAL
NO. 2 d/b/a/ OLYMPIC MEDICAL CENTER,
and YORK HOSPITAL,

Plaintiffs,

v.

ALEX M. AZAR II,
in his official capacity as SECRETARY OF
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES,

Defendant.

Civil Action No. 1:18-cv-2841

DECLARATION OF JOANNA HIATT KIM IN SUPPORT OF
PLAINTIFFS' MOTION FOR SUMMARY JUDGMENT

I, Joanna Hiatt Kim, hereby declare and state the following:

1. My name is Joanna Hiatt Kim. I am over 21 years of age. I am an adult citizen of the United States. I reside in McLean, VA.

2. The facts set forth in this declaration are based on my personal knowledge and upon information available to me through the files and records of the American Hospital Association (AHA). If called upon as a witness, I could and would testify to these facts.

3. I am the Vice President, Payment Policy and Analysis of the AHA. I have served in this capacity since January 2016. From January 2013 through January 2016, my title was Vice President, Payment Policy. In both roles, I have been responsible for leading AHA's work on Medicare payment policy and initiatives, including those relating to outpatient payments. In

my capacity as Vice President, Payment Policy and Analysis, I have access to certain financial data relating to the impact on AHA's members of the clinic visit policy at issue in this lawsuit.

4. The AHA is a national, not-for-profit organization headquartered in Washington, D.C. The AHA represents and serves nearly 5,000 hospitals, health care systems, and networks, and over 43,000 individual members. Its mission is to advance the health of individuals and communities by leading, representing, and serving the hospitals, systems, and other related organizations that are accountable to the community and committed to health improvement. The AHA provides extensive education for healthcare leaders and is a source of valuable information and data on health care issues and trends. It also ensures that members' perspectives and needs are heard and addressed in national health-policy development, legislative and regulatory debates, and judicial matters. One of the critical ways in which AHA serves its mission is to protect its members' interests in connection with policy changes initiated by CMS through advocacy and litigation.

5. On behalf of its members, the AHA (with its co-plaintiffs) has filed this lawsuit challenging as *ultra vires* a payment reduction implemented by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) as part of the calendar year (CY) 2019 Medicare outpatient prospective payment system (OPPS) final rule (Final Rule).

6. Under the challenged clinic visit policy, CMS has announced that it will equalize payment for clinic visit services provided by excepted and non-excepted off-campus provider-based departments (PBDs), to be phased in over the course of two years. In CY 2019, payment for clinic visit services furnished at excepted off-campus PBDs will be reduced to 70 percent of the current OPPS payment rate. In 2020, payment to excepted off-campus provider-based departments will be fully equalized with non-excepted off-campus provider-based departments.

This will mean that payment for clinic visit services at both classes of off-campus provider-based departments will be equal to 40 percent of the then-current OPSS rate, which CMS claims approximates payment under the Medicare physician fee schedule.

7. Many of AHA's members, including the named hospital plaintiffs, have excepted off-campus PBDs and will be negatively affected by CMS's Final Rule. These hospitals will be harmed by CMS's *ultra vires* conduct if the Final Rule is allowed to stand because they will suffer a serious reduction in payment for services provided at excepted off-campus PBDs. By seeking to remedy that harm and ensure hospitals are able to provide the full range of outpatient department services in the manner that Congress intended, this action seeks to further the interests of AHA's members that are germane to its organizational purpose.

8. Many hospitals rely heavily on the structure of Medicare payments established by Congress to provide critical outpatient services for the vulnerable populations in their communities, many of whom have been historically underserved. By CMS's own estimate, payment reductions resulting from the clinic visit policy set forth in the Final Rule will total approximately \$380 million in CY 2019 alone. 83 Fed. Reg. 59,014.

9. By reducing the payment rate for covered services provided at excepted PBDs, the Final Rule will force serious payment reductions on affected hospitals, which in turn may cause those hospitals to make difficult decisions about whether to reduce or even eliminate services. In addition, the revenue lost by hospitals will affect their ability to expand services, invest in infrastructure, and open new locations. Moreover, the payment reduction is particularly troubling for hospitals already operating at low or negative margins.

10. Off-campus provider-based departments help fill an important role in the medical-care continuum for such vulnerable and underserved patients. Because they need not be located

in immediate proximity to their affiliated hospital's main buildings, off-campus provider-based departments can be directly embedded in the communities of patients who live miles from a hospital's main campus. As a result, such off-campus provider-based departments are often *the* lifeline for access to hospital outpatient care for these patients. If hospitals are forced to reduce services at off-campus PBDs as a result of the payment cuts set forth in the Final Rule, patients that are already facing medical and/or financial barriers will be forced to travel longer distances to obtain medical care.

I declare under penalty of perjury pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1746 that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed this 24 day of January 2018.



Joanna Hiatt Kim
Vice President, Payment Policy and Analysis
American Hospital Association

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

THE AMERICAN HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION,
ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN MEDICAL
COLLEGES, MERCY HEALTH MUSKEGON,
CLALLAM COUNTY PUBLIC HOSPITAL
NO. 2 d/b/a/ OLYMPIC MEDICAL CENTER,
and YORK HOSPITAL,

Plaintiffs,

v.

ALEX M. AZAR II,
in his official capacity as SECRETARY OF
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES,

Defendant.

Civil Action No. 1:18-cv-2841

DECLARATION OF JANIS M. ORLOWSKI IN SUPPORT OF
PLAINTIFFS' MOTION FOR SUMMARY JUDGMENT

I, Janis M. Orlowksi, hereby declare and state the following:

1. My name is Janis M. Orłowski. I am over 21 years of age and competent to testify to the facts set forth herein. I am an adult citizen of the United States. I reside in the District of Columbia.

2. The facts set forth in this declaration are based on my personal knowledge and upon information available to me through the files and records of the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC). If called upon as a witness, I could and would testify to these facts.

3. I am the Chief, Health Care Affairs of the AAMC. I have served in this capacity since 2013. In this role, I am responsible for all activities of the Health Care Affairs cluster, including regulatory work, data analysis in support of such work, and staffing the Council of

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Teaching Hospitals and Health Systems. In my capacity as Chief, I am familiar with the impact that the clinic visit policy at issue in this lawsuit will have on AAMC's members.

4. AAMC is a national, not-for-profit association based in Washington, D.C. The AAMC represents and serves all 152 accredited U.S. medical schools, nearly 400 major teaching hospitals and health systems, and more than 80 academic societies. Through these institutions and organizations, the AAMC represents 128,000 faculty members, 83,000 medical students, and 110,000 resident physicians. The AAMC works to improve the nation's health by strengthening the quality of medical education and training, enhancing the search for biomedical knowledge, advancing health services research, and integrating education and research into the provision of effective health care. In addition, it is one of the AAMC's core missions to advocate and litigate on behalf of its members and patients in connection with national health-policy matters.

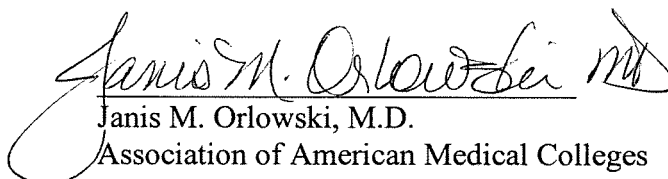
5. On behalf of its members, the AAMC (with its co-plaintiffs) has filed this lawsuit challenging as *ultra vires* a payment reduction implemented by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) as part of the calendar year (CY) 2019 Medicare outpatient prospective payment system (OPPS) final rule (Final Rule).

6. Many of AAMC's members have excepted off-campus provider-based departments (PBDs) and will be harmed by CMS's Final Rule if it is allowed to stand because they will suffer a serious reduction in payment for services at those excepted off-campus PBDs. By seeking to remedy that harm and ensure hospitals are able to provide the full range of outpatient department services in the manner that Congress intended, this action seeks to further the interests of AAMC's members that are germane to its organizational purpose.

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PRIVILEGED & CONFIDENTIAL

I declare under penalty of perjury pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1746 that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed this 28th day of January 2019.


Janis M. Orlowski, M.D.
Association of American Medical Colleges

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

THE AMERICAN HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION,
ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN MEDICAL
COLLEGES, MERCY HEALTH MUSKEGON,
CLALLAM COUNTY PUBLIC HOSPITAL
NO. 2 d/b/a/ OLYMPIC MEDICAL CENTER,
and YORK HOSPITAL,

Plaintiffs,

v.

ALEX M. AZAR II,
in his official capacity as SECRETARY OF
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES,

Defendant.

Civil Action No. 1:18-cv-2841

DECLARATION OF ERIC LEWIS IN SUPPORT OF
PLAINTIFFS' MOTION FOR SUMMARY JUDGMENT

I, Eric Lewis, hereby declare and state the following:

1. My name is Eric Lewis. I am over 21 years of age and competent to testify to the facts set forth herein. I am an adult citizen of the United States. I reside in Sequim, Washington.

2. The facts set forth in this declaration are based on my personal knowledge and upon information available to me through the files and records of Clallam County Public Hospital District No. 2, d/b/a Olympic Medical Center (Olympic Medical Center or OMC). If called upon as a witness, I could and would testify to these facts.

3. I am the Chief Executive Officer of Olympic Medical Center. I have served in this capacity since December 2006. In this role, I am responsible for the operations of OMC and implementing Board of Commissioner approved strategic plans and budgets. In my capacity as

Chief Executive Officer, I am familiar with the impact that the clinic visit policy at issue in this lawsuit will have on OMC and its operations.

4. Olympic Medical Center is a comprehensive healthcare provider serving the North Olympic Peninsula with a network of facilities in Clallam County, Washington. OMC primarily serves the approximately 75,000 residents of Clallam County, Washington. It provides services to all patients regardless of ability or inability to pay and regardless of insurance status. Olympic Medical Center is a large rural hospital and healthcare center designated as a Sole Community Hospital and Rural Referral Center, and operates as a safety-net hospital, employing over 100 physicians and advanced practice clinicians. Of OMC's patients, 83% rely on Government-paid insurance and 58.3% rely on Medicare.

5. Olympic Medical Center is a member of the American Hospital Association.

6. Olympic Medical Center has filed this lawsuit (along with its co-plaintiffs) challenging as *ultra vires* a payment reduction implemented by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) as part of the calendar year (CY) 2019 Medicare outpatient prospective payment system (OPPS) final rule (Final Rule).

7. Olympic Medical Center furnishes outpatient services at eight excepted off-campus provider-based departments (PBDs), including a specialty physician clinic offering cardiology, gastroenterology, pulmonary medicine, neurology, urology and women's health; a sleep center; a primary care clinic; a coagulation clinic; a walk-in clinic; a cancer center providing medical oncology services and radiation oncology services in Sequim, which is 17 miles from the main hospital campus; and a primary care clinic in Port Angeles, which is approximately one mile from the hospital. Olympic Medical Center will suffer immediate and concrete harm from the outpatient-services payment reductions set forth in the Final Rule.

8. Olympic Medical Center estimates that the clinic visit policy set forth in the Final Rule will cause OMC over \$1.6 million in lost revenue for CY 2019 alone. That lost revenue will impose further financial strain on OMC's already-thin operating margin. Olympic Medical Center's operating margin in 2018 was 0.3% (approximately \$681,000). In 2017, OMC experienced a loss of \$2.5 million (negative 1.4% margin).

9. The reductions in payments for covered Medicare-funded outpatient services OMC faces will have a significant impact, both economic and non-economic, on its operations, its patients and the greater community. For example, OMC was unable to add primary care access in Sequim despite receiving construction bids for a needed expansion to primary care clinic space on November 15, 2018. Due to the physician clinic reimbursement cuts, OMC was forced to cancel its construction project for the additional space and those needed primary care services will not be added in Sequim.

10. Because of the cancellation of the primary care construction for expanded space in Sequim, patients who are ill and suffering may be unable to obtain primary care close to home. A survey of Clallam County residents demonstrated that there are still approximately 10,000 residents who do not have a primary care provider. Those patients will go without medical services, be forced to use OMC's Emergency Department or must travel to urban areas such as Bremerton (3-4 hours of driving round trip) or Seattle (5-8 hours driving round trip via ferry) for primary care. In Clallam County, there are very few, if any physicians available who are accepting freestanding Medicare reimbursement rates.

11. OMC's primary care clinic in Port Angeles, located at 8th & Vine Street, is a medical home to 8,300 patients in Clallam County but is no longer financially viable due to its distance from OMC's hospital of more than 250 yards. OMC invested substantially in the

building at 8th & Vine Street but the Medicare physician clinic cuts render this investment a liability by jeopardizing the viability of the off-campus primary care clinic services at this location. Without primary care access and expanded services for those who need primary care, Clallam County will have more emergency department (ED) and inpatient utilization at OMC. With the reduced availability of primary care access and preventive services to Medicare enrollees, the consequence will be increased visits to OMC's hospital, poorer outcomes for patients, and a higher cost for CMS. The cut to the physician clinic expense reimbursement will prevent OMC from investing in wellness, prevention, and chronic disease management services to help reduce ED and inpatient utilization. This will undermine and potentially reverse the benefits of current highly effective and well-received measures by OMC such as partnering with our local YMCA facility to offer cardiac and pulmonary rehabilitation, smoking cessation classes, balance classes, diabetes education and other wellness services. Without a robust wellness/preventive care initiative and execution plan, OMC's efforts to keep patients from high ED and hospital utilization will fall short. Patients will suffer harm from less access, having to travel further for the needed care, experiencing worse health care outcomes.

12. Clallam County needs more Medicare hospice services including inpatient hospice; OMC submitted a Letter of Intent on a Certificate of Need for hospice services in November 2018. Without adequate Medicare physician clinic reimbursement, OMC's ability to expand services to meet the need for hospice care is in question. The community will suffer without these necessary hospice services.

13. The cuts have destabilized OMC's finances and caused immediate budget harm. In order to serve the growing population in Sequim and to serve the needs in Clallam County, OMC issued long-term debt of millions of dollars to pay to establish and maintain buildings and

facilities which meet hospital ambulatory standards. OMC's payments to its bank on the building debt will not decrease even though reimbursement will be reduced substantially due to the physician clinic cuts. OMC currently has \$60 million of long-term debt which must be repaid with interest over the coming decade-plus. The Medicare cuts have caused immediate harm to OMC's ability to reasonably repay long-term debt.

14. The cuts have, in addition, substantially harmed the community, and the impact to Clallam County's rural economy has been immediately felt. The schools in the Port Angeles and Sequim school district rely on the tax revenue of citizens and OMC is a key contributor to the local economy as the largest employer in the county. OMC provides more than 1,500 jobs to the local economy. OMC has been growing to meet the needs of the community, adding more than 200 jobs over the last two years, but the cuts significantly limit OMC's ability to meet community health care needs.

15. Vacating the clinic visit policy set forth in the Final Rule and ensuring that Medicare payments for outpatient services are made in line with Congress's intent would help remedy the harm Olympic Medical Center faces from CMS's unlawful conduct.

16. On January 2 and January 3, 2019, Olympic Medical Center submitted claims for excepted off-campus physician clinic visit services covered by the Final Rule to its Medicare Administrative Contractor. The Medicare Administrative Contractor responded to those claims on January 28, 2019. OMC filed a Medicare Redetermination Request on January 28, 2019. True and correct copies of these documents are attached as Exhibit A.

I declare under penalty of perjury pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1746 that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed this 29th day of January 2019.

Eric Lewis

Eric Lewis, Chief Executive Officer
Olympic Medical Center

Exhibit A

This is an electronic claim. The paper image below was generated for reference purposes only using paper form 30840212-CC WM HB UB04 CLAIM FORM.

Note: This information is only for viewing. It cannot be used instead of a claim.

UB-04 Claim Image

Account: [REDACTED]

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Working together to provide excellence in health care.

939 Caroline Street ♦ Port Angeles, WA 98362 ♦ (360) 417-7000 ♦ www.olympicmedical.org

January 17, 2019

Noridian Healthcare Solutions
Noridian JF
900 42nd St S
PO Box 6720
Fargo, ND 58103-6720

Re: See representative Claim #1 – as indicated on the attached UB-04 Claim for G0463 procedure - Admit Dx G4733
Attending NPI 1700998747 Usha Reddi on 1/2/2019

Greetings:

On Nov. 21, 2018, CMS published in the Federal Register a final rule with comment period reducing Medicare payment rates for clinic visit services at certain off-campus provider-based departments (excepted off-campus PBDs). As explained in comments on the proposed rule (see 83 Fed. Reg. 59,004-15), the payment reduction exceeds the scope of the Secretary's statutory authority. The payment reduction is unlawful and *ultra vires* because it violates the statutory requirement that adjustments to payment rates be budget neutral and because it ignores the statutory distinction between excepted and non-excepted off-campus PBDs. The payment rate for the claimed services should be **\$124.72**.

Olympic Medical Center hereby demands the reimbursement level which was in effect before the above referenced rule change.

Because OMC submitted this claim last week and we have not received a remittance from Noridian yet, we don't have a claim number so we are applying a 'representative number' for reference only as indicated in the Subject line above.

Sincerely,

Jennifer A. Burkhardt, JD WSBA #27437
General Counsel, CHRO

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Representative Claim #1



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939 Caroline Street ♦ Port Angeles, WA 98362 ♦ (360) 417-7000 ♦ www.olympicmedical.org

January 17, 2019

Noridian Healthcare Solutions
Noridian JF
900 42nd St S
PO Box 6720
Fargo, ND 58103-6720

Re: See representative Claim #2 – as indicated on the attached UB-04 Claim for G0463 procedure - Admit Dx I482
Attending NPI 1770843823 David Lewis MD on 1/2/2019

Greetings:

On Nov. 21, 2018, CMS published in the Federal Register a final rule with comment period reducing Medicare payment rates for clinic visit services at certain off-campus provider-based departments (excepted off-campus PBDs). As explained in comments on the proposed rule (see 83 Fed. Reg. 59,004-15), the payment reduction exceeds the scope of the Secretary's statutory authority. The payment reduction is unlawful and *ultra vires* because it violates the statutory requirement that adjustments to payment rates be budget neutral and because it ignores the statutory distinction between excepted and non-excepted off-campus PBDs. The payment rate for the claimed services should be **\$124.72**.

Olympic Medical Center hereby demands the reimbursement level which was in effect before the above referenced rule change.

Because OMC submitted this claim last week and we have not received a remittance from Noridian yet, we don't have a claim number so we are applying a 'representative number' for reference only as indicated in the Subject line above.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jennifer A. Burkhardt".

Jennifer A. Burkhardt, JD WSBA #27437
General Counsel, CHRO

This is an electronic claim. The paper image below was generated for reference purposes only using paper form 30840212-CC WM HB UB04 CLAIM FORM.

Note: This information is only for viewing. It cannot be used instead of a claim.

UB-04 Claim Image

Account: [REDACTED]

Page: 1 of 1

1 OLYMPIC MEDICAL CENTER 939 CAROLINE STREET PORT ANGELES 9804177111										2 OLYMPIC MEDICAL CENTER 939 CAROLINE STREET PORT ANGELES WA 98362-3909										3a Pat Cnt # [REDACTED] 3b Med Rec # [REDACTED] 5 Fed Tax No. 916001709 6 Smt. From [REDACTED] 19 6 Smt. To [REDACTED] 19										4 Bill Type D131																																																																																																																																											
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representative claim # 2



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January 17, 2019

Noridian Healthcare Solutions
Noridian JF
900 42nd St S
PO Box 6720
Fargo, ND 58103-6720

Re: See representative Claim #3 – as indicated on the attached UB-04 Claim for G0463 procedure - Admit Dx Z79891
Attending NPI 1770843823 David Lewis MD on 1/2/2019

Greetings:

On Nov. 21, 2018, CMS published in the Federal Register a final rule with comment period reducing Medicare payment rates for clinic visit services at certain off-campus provider-based departments (excepted off-campus PBDs). As explained in comments on the proposed rule (see 83 Fed. Reg. 59,004-15), the payment reduction exceeds the scope of the Secretary's statutory authority. The payment reduction is unlawful and *ultra vires* because it violates the statutory requirement that adjustments to payment rates be budget neutral and because it ignores the statutory distinction between excepted and non-excepted off-campus PBDs. The payment rate for the claimed services should be **\$124.72**.

Olympic Medical Center hereby demands the reimbursement level which was in effect before the above referenced rule change.

Because OMC submitted this claim last week and we have not received a remittance from Noridian yet, we don't have a claim number so we are applying a 'representative number' for reference only as indicated in the Subject line above.

Sincerely,

Jennifer A. Burkhardt, JD WSBA #27437
General Counsel, CHRO

Note: This information is only for viewing. It cannot be used instead of a claim.

UB-04 Claim Image

Account: [REDACTED]

Page: 1 of 1

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representative claim #3

Remittance Advice Part A Response
 1. For best results and full-screen printing, set your printing options to print in Landscape.
 2. To print, select the printable version link and then print from your browser.

MEDICARE MEDA CLALLAM COUNTY PUBLIC HOSPITAL Single Claim Report
 1306845557 CLALLAM COUNTY PUBLIC HOSPITAL FYE: TOB: 131 PAID DATE: 01/24/2019 DATE: TIME:

PATIENT NAME	PATIENT CNTRL NUMBER	FRM DT	COST	REPTD CHGS	DRG NBR	OUTLIER AMT	REIMB RATE ALLOWED	INTEREST
ICN	Medicare Number	THR DT	COVD	NCVD/DENIED	DRG AMOUNT	DEDUCT	MSP PRI PAY PROC CD AMT	PAT REFUND
CLAIM #/CLM STATUS	MEDICAL REC NUMBER	PAT ST	NCVDV	CLAIM ADJS	DRG O-C	COINS	PROF COMP	LINE ADJ AMT
NAME CHG=xx	Medicare Number CHG=	TOB=xxx CV LN	NCVL	COVD CHGS	NEW TECH	MSP LIAB MET	ESRD AMT	CONT ADJ AMT NET. REIMB
				128.50	0	0.0	0.37	69.60
				0.00	0.00	0.00	0.0	0.0
		01		0.0	0.0	17.76	0.0	0.0
NAME CHG=	Medicare Number CHG=	TOB=131 1		128.50	0.0		0.0	39.72
								69.60

Group, MOA, Remark and Reason Codes
 ALERT: THE CLAIM INFORMATION IS ALSO BEING FORWARDED TO THE PATIESUPPLEMENTAL INSURER. SEND ANY QUESTIONS REGARDING MA18 SUPPLEMENTAL BTS TO THEM.

Welcome Sarah Manage Account Message Center⁰ Sign Out

Last Login on 1/28/2019 01:52 PM CST | Failed attempts: 0

Noridian Medicare Portal

Home Contact Us Help

Eligibility
or MBI
Lookup

Claim
Status

Appeals

Remittance
Advices

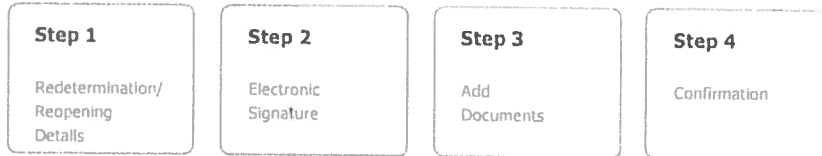
Financials

Same or
Similar
DME

Prior
Authorizations

Provider
Audit

Provider
Enrollment



Reopening/Redetermination-Confirmation

Print Friendly

Attestation

The request was successfully submitted. Print a copy of this request and save it for your records. A full summary of the request will not be offered after leaving this page. A confirmation number will guarantee the most accurate inquiry results.

Confirmation Number: 1322240211
 Status: Pending
 Submitted: 01/28/2019
 Provider/Supplier: CLALLAM COUNTY PUBLIC HOSPITAL
 NPI: 1306845557
 PTAN: 500072
 TIN or SSN: 916001709
 Medicare Contract: MEDA

Beneficiary: [REDACTED]
 Gender: [REDACTED]
 DOB: [REDACTED]
 Medicare Number: [REDACTED]

Receipt Date: 01/10/2019
 MSP Ind: N
 Crossover Ind: Y
 Last Worked Date:
 Check/EFT #:

ICN: 21900300463504WAA
 Status: PAID
 Billed Amount: 128.50
 Finalized Date: 01/23/2019
 Provider/Supplier Paid Amount: 69.60
 Speciality:
 Total Deductible:

Comments:

On November 21, 2018, CMS published in the Federal Register a final rule with comment period reducing Medicare payment rates for clinic visit services at certain off-campus provider-based departments (excepted off-campus PBDs). As explained in comments on the proposed rule (see 83 Federal Register 59,004-15), the payment reduction exceeds the scope of the Secretary's statutory authority. The payment reduction is unlawful and ultra vires. The payment reduction for clinic visit services furnished at excepted off-campus PBDs is unlawful and ultra vires because it violates the statutory requirement that adjustments to payment rates be budget neutral and because it ignores the statutory distinction between excepted and non-excepted off-campus PBDs. The payment rate allowed amount for the claimed services should be \$124.79 and we are therefore demanding additional payment of \$37.43.

Line	From DOS	To DOS	HCPCS	Modifier	Diagnosis Code	Billed Amount
1	[REDACTED]/2019	[REDACTED]/2019	G0463	PO		128.50

Added Documentation

Document Name	Date Submitted	View
INITIAL DETERMINATION	01/28/2019	View Document
Original Submission	01/28/2019	View Document

[Add Document](#)

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IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

THE AMERICAN HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION,)
ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN MEDICAL)
COLLEGES, MERCY HEALTH MUSKEGON,)
CLALLAM COUNTY PUBLIC HOSPITAL)
NO. 2 d/b/a/ OLYMPIC MEDICAL CENTER,)
and YORK HOSPITAL,)
))
Plaintiffs,)
))
v.)
))
ALEX M. AZAR II,)
in his official capacity as SECRETARY OF)
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES,)
))
Defendant.)

Civil Action No. 1:18-cv-2841

**DECLARATION OF JUD KNOX IN SUPPORT OF
PLAINTIFFS' MOTION FOR SUMMARY JUDGMENT**

I, Jud Knox, hereby declare and state the following:

1. My name is Jud Knox. I am over 21 years of age and competent to testify to the facts set forth herein. I am an adult citizen of the United States. I reside in York, Maine.
2. The facts set forth in this declaration are based on my personal knowledge and upon information available to me through the files and records of York Hospital. If called upon as a witness, I could and would testify to these facts.
3. I am the President of York Hospital. I have served in this capacity since 1982. In this role, I am responsible for the performance of the entire organization. In my capacity as President, I am familiar with the impact that the clinic visit policy at issue in this lawsuit will have on York Hospital and its operations.

4. York Hospital is a small community hospital located in York, Maine that serves the surrounding area and has 50 beds in operation. Founded in 1906, York is dedicated to giving back to its community: among other things, it provides support programs and services to schools, civic organizations, and non-profit groups, runs an opiate treatment facility, and offers transportation and food to patients unable to afford them. Of York's patients, almost 54% rely on Medicare. York Hospital is a member of the American Hospital Association.

5. York Hospital has filed this lawsuit (along with its co-plaintiffs) challenging as *ultra vires* a payment reduction implemented by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) as part of the calendar year (CY) 2019 Medicare outpatient prospective payment system (OPPS) final rule (Final Rule).

6. York Hospital furnishes outpatient services at 12 excepted off-campus provider-based departments (PBDs), including three oncology clinics, four primary care practices and specialty clinics offering psychiatry, cardiovascular care, internal medicine and GYN care. York will suffer immediate and concrete harm from the payment reductions for covered outpatient services set forth in the Final Rule.

7. The ultimate reductions in payments for Medicare-funded outpatient services York Hospital faces will have a substantial impact, both economic and non-economic, on its operations and its patients and the greater community. Specifically, York Hospital estimates that the clinic visit policy set forth in the Final Rule will cause it to suffer a \$1.1 million annual loss, or a .6 percent annual reduction in operating revenue.

8. Vacating the clinic visit policy portion of the Final Rule and ensuring that Medicare payments for off-campus provider based department outpatient services are made in

line with Congress's intent would help remedy the harm York Hospital faces from CMS's unlawful conduct.

9. On January 7, 2019, York Hospital submitted claims for excepted off-campus physician clinic visit services covered by the Final Rule to its Medicare Administrative Contractor. The Medicare Administrative Contractor responded to those claims on January 22, 2019. York Hospital filed a Medicare Redetermination Request on January 25, 2019. True and correct copies of these documents are attached as Exhibit A.

I declare under penalty of perjury pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1746 that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed this ^{EW}~~28~~ day of January 2019.

By: 

Jud Knox
President
York Hospital

Exhibit A

YORK HOSPITAL 15 HOSPITAL DR YORK ME 039091011 2073634321										UNIT # 00000000 S. MED. REC. # [REDACTED] 0131 5 FED. TAX NO. 01-0212444 8 STATEMENT COVERS PERIOD FROM [REDACTED] 19 THROUGH [REDACTED] 19									
8 PATIENT NAME [REDACTED]										9 PATIENT ADDRESS [REDACTED] c ME d 03904									
10 BIRTHDATE [REDACTED] 11 SEX M 12 DATE 14 3 1 13 ADM. TYPE 14 3 1 15 SRC 16 DHR 17 STAT 01										CONDITION CODES 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 ACCT CODE 30									
31 OCCURRENCE DATE 11 [REDACTED] 19 32 OCCURRENCE DATE [REDACTED] 33 OCCURRENCE DATE [REDACTED] 34 OCCURRENCE DATE [REDACTED]										35 CODE [REDACTED] 36 OCCURRENCE SPAN FROM [REDACTED] THROUGH [REDACTED] 37 OCCURRENCE SPAN FROM [REDACTED] THROUGH [REDACTED]									
39 CODE [REDACTED] VALUE CODES AMOUNT [REDACTED]										40 CODE [REDACTED] VALUE CODES AMOUNT [REDACTED] 41 CODE [REDACTED] VALUE CODES AMOUNT [REDACTED]									
42 REV. CD. 0510 43 DESCRIPTION PHYSICIAN PRACTICE CLINIC										44 HCPCS / RATE / NPPS CODE G0483 PO 45 SERV. DATE [REDACTED] 19 46 SERV. UNITS 1 47 TOTAL CHARGES 124 00 48 NON-COVERED CHARGES [REDACTED] 49 [REDACTED]									
0001 PAGE 001 OF 001										CREATION DATE [REDACTED] 19 TOTALS 124 00									
60 PAYER NAME MEDICARE A AND B HARVARD										61 HEALTH PLAN ID [REDACTED] 62 PRIOR PAYMENTS Y Y Y Y 63 EST. AMOUNT DUE [REDACTED] 64 NPI 1376528398 65 OTHER PRV ID 1376528398									
66 INSURED'S NAME [REDACTED]										67 PREL. 18 68 INSURED'S UNIQUE ID [REDACTED] 69 GROUP NAME [REDACTED] 70 INSURANCE GROUP NO. [REDACTED]									
71 TREATMENT AUTHORIZATION CODES [REDACTED]										72 DOCUMENT CONTROL NUMBER [REDACTED] 73 EMPLOYER NAME [REDACTED]									
74 E039 J439 I258 I10 I2510 E7800 R911 N281										75 [REDACTED]									
76 ADMIT. REASON DX E039 77 ICD 9 CM PROCEDURE CODE [REDACTED] 78 ICD 9 CM PROCEDURE DATE [REDACTED]										79 ICD 9 CM PROCEDURE CODE [REDACTED] 80 ICD 9 CM PROCEDURE DATE [REDACTED]									
81 REMARKS MEDICARE A AND B PO BOX 7081 INDIANAPOLIS IN 462077091										82 ICD 9 CM PROCEDURE CODE B3 282N00000X 83 ICD 9 CM PROCEDURE DATE [REDACTED] 84 ICD 9 CM PROCEDURE CODE B1 WHITE 85 ICD 9 CM PROCEDURE DATE [REDACTED] 86 ICD 9 CM PROCEDURE CODE B2 M 87 ICD 9 CM PROCEDURE DATE [REDACTED]									
88 ATTENDING NPI 1216164082 LAST JEAN FIRST NATHAN										89 OPERATING NPI [REDACTED] LAST [REDACTED] FIRST [REDACTED]									
90 OTHER NPI [REDACTED] LAST [REDACTED] FIRST [REDACTED]										91 OTHER NPI [REDACTED] LAST [REDACTED] FIRST [REDACTED]									

UB-04 CMS-1485

APPROVED CMS NO. 0838-0907

NUBC

THE CERTIFICATIONS ON THE REVERSE APPLY TO THIS BILL AND ARE MADE A PART HEREOF

MAP1716 PAGE 06 NATIONAL GOVERNMENT SERVICES #14011 ACPFA181 01/21/19
SHN1844 SC INST CLAIM INQUIRY A20191AP 11:28:46

MID [REDACTED] TOB 131 S/LOC P B9997 PROVIDER 200020
MSP ADDITIONAL INSURER INFORMATION

1ST INSURERS ADDRESS 1

1ST INSURERS ADDRESS 2

CITY

ST

ZIP

2ND INSURERS ADDRESS 1

2ND INSURERS ADDRESS 2

CITY

ST

ZIP

PAYMENT DATA --- DEDUCTIBLE

82.87

COIN

CROSSOVER IND 1

PARTNER ID 000030317 P 000000060 P

PAID DATE 012219 PROVIDER PAYMENT .00 PAID BY PATIENT

REIMB RATE .36 RECEIPT DATE 010819 PROVIDER INTEREST

CHECK/EFT NO EFT1118593 CHECK/EFT ISSUE DATE 012219 PAYMENT CODE ACH

PIP PAY AS CASH PRICER DATA HOSPICE PRIOR DYS

DRG OUTLIER AMT TTL BLNDED PAYMT FED SPEC

GRAMM RUDMAN ORIG REIMBURSEMENT AMT .00 NET INL

TECH PROV DAYS TECH PROV CHARGES

OTHER INS ID CLINIC CODE

37190

<== REASON CODES

PRESS PF3-EXIT PF7-PREV PAGE

YORK HOSPITAL 15 HOSPITAL DR YORK ME 039091011 2073834321										B. MED. REG. # [REDACTED] 0131 5 FED. TAX NO. 01-0212444 6 STATEMENT COVERS PERIOD FROM [REDACTED] 19 THROUGH [REDACTED] 19									
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10 BIRTHDATE [REDACTED]										11 SEX F									
12 DATE [REDACTED]										13 HR 13 14 TYPE 3 15 SRC 1									
16 DHR [REDACTED]										17 STAY 01									
18 [REDACTED]										19 [REDACTED]									
20 [REDACTED]										21 [REDACTED]									
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24 [REDACTED]										25 [REDACTED]									
26 [REDACTED]										27 [REDACTED]									
28 [REDACTED]										29 ACCT STATE [REDACTED]									
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34 [REDACTED]										35 OCCURRENCE DATE [REDACTED]									
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46 SERVL UNITS 1										47 TOTAL CHARGES 124.00									
48 NON-COVERED CHARGES										49									
0001 PAGE 001 OF 001										CREATION DATE [REDACTED] 19 TOTALS 124.00									
60 PAYER NAME MEDICARE A AND B BCBS ANTHEM NEW HAMPSHI										61 HEALTH PLAN ID [REDACTED]									
62 REL. NRO Y										63 ANO. RFL Y									
64 PRIOR PAYMENTS										65 EST. AMOUNT DUE									
66 NPI 1376528398										67 OTHER FRV ID 1376528398									
68 INURED'S NAME [REDACTED]										69 PREL. 18									
70 INSURED'S URQUE ID [REDACTED]										71 18									
72 GROUP NAME										73 INSURANCE GROUP NO.									
74 TREATMENT AUTHORIZATION CODES										75 DOCUMENT CONTROL NUMBER									
76 EMPLOYER NAME										77									
78 110										79 1214									
80 F809										81 E1043									
82 F321										83 K3184									
84 ADMIT. REASON [REDACTED]										85 PATIENT REASON [REDACTED]									
86 PRINCIPAL PROCEDURE CODE [REDACTED]										87 OTHER PROCEDURE CODE [REDACTED]									
88 OTHER PROCEDURE CODE [REDACTED]										89 OTHER PROCEDURE CODE [REDACTED]									
90 REMARKS MEDICARE A AND B PO BOX 7091 INDIANAPOLIS IN 462077091										91 B3 282N00000X 92 B1 WHITE 93 B2 U									
94 ATTENDING NPI 1588739888										95 QUAL									
96 LAST BRADEN										97 FIRST TREVOR									
98 OPERATING NPI										99 QUAL									
100 LAST										101 FIRST									
102 OTHER NPI										103 QUAL									
104 LAST										105 FIRST									
106 OTHER NPI										107 QUAL									
108 LAST										109 FIRST									

MAP1741 NATIONAL GOVERNMENT SERVICES #14011 ACPFA181 01/10/19
 JXJ1341 SC CLAIM SUMMARY INQUIRY C201914F 10:11:44
 NPI 1376528398
 MID 015506182A PROVIDER S/LOC TOB
 OPERATOR ID JXJ1341 FROM DATE [REDACTED] 19 TO DATE [REDACTED] 19 DDE SORT
 MEDICAL REVIEW SELECT DCN
 MID PROV/MRN S/LOC TOB ADM DT FRM DT THRU DT REC DT
 SEL LAST NAME FIRST INIT TOT CHG PROV REIMB PD DT CAN DT REAS NPC #DAYS
 [REDACTED] S MOPPS 131 [REDACTED] 19 [REDACTED] 19 [REDACTED] 19
 [REDACTED] 124.00 WW001

PROCESS COMPLETED --- NO MORE DATA THIS TYPE
 PLEASE MAKE A SELECTION, ENTER NEW KEY DATA, OR PRESS PF3 TO EXIT
 MAP1741 NATIONAL GOVERNMENT SERVICES #14011 ACPFA181 01/10/19
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 NPI 1376528398
 MID [REDACTED] PROVIDER S/LOC TOB
 OPERATOR ID JXJ1341 FROM DATE [REDACTED] 19 TO DATE [REDACTED] 19 DDE SORT
 MEDICAL REVIEW SELECT DCN
 MID PROV/MRN S/LOC TOB ADM DT FRM DT THRU DT REC DT
 SEL LAST NAME FIRST INIT TOT CHG PROV REIMB PD DT CAN DT REAS NPC #DAYS
 [REDACTED] S MOPPS 131 [REDACTED] 19 [REDACTED] 19 [REDACTED] 19
 [REDACTED] R 124.00 WW001

PROCESS COMPLETED --- NO MORE DATA THIS TYPE
 PLEASE MAKE A SELECTION, ENTER NEW KEY DATA, OR PRESS PF3 TO EXIT

MAP1716 PAGE 06 NATIONAL GOVERNMENT SERVICES #14011 ACPFA181 01/21/19
SHN1844 SC INST CLAIM INQUIRY A20191AP 11:24:35

MID [REDACTED] TOB 131 S/LOC P B9997 PROVIDER 200020
MSP ADDITIONAL INSURER INFORMATION

1ST INSURERS ADDRESS 1
1ST INSURERS ADDRESS 2

CITY ST ZIP

2ND INSURERS ADDRESS 1
2ND INSURERS ADDRESS 2

CITY ST ZIP

PAYMENT DATA --- DEDUCTIBLE 82.87 COIN CROSSOVER IND 1
PARTNER ID 000000565 P

PAID DATE 012219 PROVIDER PAYMENT .00 PAID BY PATIENT
REIMB RATE .36 RECEIPT DATE 010819 PROVIDER INTEREST
CHECK/EFT NO EFT1118593 CHECK/EFT ISSUE DATE 012219 PAYMENT CODE ACH
PIP PAY AS CASH PRICER DATA HOSPICE PRIOR DYS
DRG OUTLIER AMT TTL BLNDED PAYMT FED SPEC
GRAMM RUDMAN ORIG REIMBURSEMENT AMT .00 NET INL
TECH PROV DAYS TECH PROV CHARGES
OTHER INS ID CLINIC CODE

37190

<== REASON CODES

PRESS PF3-EXIT PF7-PREV PAGE

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6 PATIENT NAME [REDACTED]										8 PATIENT ADDRESS [REDACTED]		6 FED. TAX NO. 01-0212444		7 STATEMENT COVERED PERIOD FROM 19 THROUGH 19																																																																	
10 BIRTHDATE [REDACTED]										11 SEX F		12 DATE 13 3 1		13 ADM. TYPE 01		14 SRC 1		15 DHR 1		16 STAT 01		17 COND CODES		18 ACCT STATE																																																							
31 OCCURRENCE CODE 11										32 OCCURRENCE DATE 19										33 OCCURRENCE CODE										34 OCCURRENCE DATE										35 OCCURRENCE SPAN FROM										36 OCCURRENCE SPAN THROUGH										37 OCCURRENCE SPAN THROUGH																			
39 CODE										40 VALUE CODES AMOUNT										41 CODE										42 VALUE CODES AMOUNT										43 CODE										44 VALUE CODES AMOUNT																													
42 REV. CD. 0510										43 DESCRIPTION PHYSICIAN PRACTICE CLINIC										44 HCPCS / RATE / ICD-9 CODE G0483 PO										45 SERV. DATE 19										46 SERV. UNITS 1										47 TOTAL CHARGES 124.00										48 NON-COVERED CHARGES										49									
0001 PAGE 001 OF 001										CREATION DATE 19										TOTALS										124.00																																																	
50 PAYER NAME MEDICARE A AND B MAIL HANDLERS BEN										51 HEALTH PLAN ID										52 REL. INFO Y										53 ACQ. BEN. Y										54 PRIOR PAYMENTS										55 EST. AMOUNT DUE										56 NPI 1378528398										57 OTHER PRIV ID 1378528398									
58 INSURED'S NAME [REDACTED]										59 PREL. 18 01										60 INSURED'S UNIQUE ID [REDACTED]										61 GROUP NAME										62 INSURANCE GROUP NO.																																							
63 TREATMENT AUTHORIZATION CODES										64 DOCUMENT CONTROL NUMBER										65 EMPLOYER NAME																																																											
66 DR 110										E1169																														68																																							
69 ADMIT DX										70 PATIENT REASON DX 110										71 ICD-9 CODE										72 ECH										73																																							
74 PRINCIPAL PROCEDURE CODE										75 OTHER PROCEDURE CODE										76 OTHER PROCEDURE CODE										77 ATTENDING NPI 1588640857										QUAL																																							
77 OPERATING NPI										LAST BURKE										FIRST RACHEL										QUAL																																																	
78 OTHER NPI										LAST										FIRST										QUAL																																																	
79 OTHER NPI										LAST										FIRST										QUAL																																																	
80 REMARKS MEDICARE A AND B PO BOX 7091 INDIANAPOLIS IN 462077091										81CC a B3 282N00000X										b B1 WHITE										c B2 M										d																																							

UB-04 CMS-1450

APPROVED CMS NO. 0830-0897

NUBC

THE CERTIFICATIONS ON THE REVERSE APPLY TO THIS BILL AND ARE MADE A PART HEREOF



A Not-for-Profit Community
Health Care Center Since 1904.

January 17, 2019

National Government Services
Attn: Appeals Department
P. O. Box 7111
Indianapolis, IN 46207-7111

To Whom It May Concern:

On November 21, 2018, CMS published in the Federal Register a final rule with comment period reducing Medicare payment rates for clinic visit services at certain off-campus provider-based departments (excepted off-campus PBDs). As explained in comments on the proposed rule (see 83 Fed. Reg. 59-004-15), the payment reduction exceeds the ultra vires because it violates the statutory requirement that adjustments to payment rates be budget neutral and because it ignores the statutory distinction between excepted and non-excepted off-campus PBDs. The APC Wage Adjusted payment rate, for the claimed services for York Hospital Provider Number 20-0020, should be \$118.38 effective for dates of service beginning 1/1/2019.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Robin LaBonte'.

Robin LaBonte, CFO

15 Hospital Drive, York, Maine 03909
Information: 207-363-4321 Toll Free: 877-363-4321
www.yorkhospital.com TTY: 207-363-7433

MAP1716 PAGE 06 NATIONAL GOVERNMENT SERVICES #14011 ACPFA181 01/21/19
SHN1844 SC INST CLAIM INQUIRY A20191AP 11:25:48

MID ██████████ TOB 131 S/LOC P B9997 PROVIDER 200020

MSP ADDITIONAL INSURER INFORMATION

1ST INSURERS ADDRESS 1

1ST INSURERS ADDRESS 2

CITY ST ZIP

2ND INSURERS ADDRESS 1

2ND INSURERS ADDRESS 2

CITY ST ZIP

PAYMENT DATA --- DEDUCTIBLE

82.87

COIN

CROSSOVER IND 1

PARTNER ID 000000060 P

PAID DATE 012219 PROVIDER PAYMENT .00 PAID BY PATIENT

REIMB RATE .36 RECEIPT DATE 010819 PROVIDER INTEREST

CHECK/EFT NO EFT1118593 CHECK/EFT ISSUE DATE 012219 PAYMENT CODE ACH

PIP PAY AS CASH PRICER DATA HOSPICE PRIOR DYS

DRG OUTLIER AMT TTL BLNDED PAYMT FED SPEC

GRAMM RUDMAN ORIG REIMBURSEMENT AMT .00 NET INL

TECH PROV DAYS TECH PROV CHARGES

OTHER INS ID CLINIC CODE

37190

<== REASON CODES

PRESS PF3-EXIT PF7-PREV PAGE

NATIONAL GOVERNMENT SERVICES, INC.

Today's Date: 01/25/2019 09:31

MEDICARE PART A

Page 1 of 1

Payment Date: 01/22/2019

Provider Number: 1376528398 YORK HOSPITAL

Patient Name	From Date	Days TOB	Total Chgs	Cov Chgs	Non Cov	Prof Comp	Interest
Invoice ID	HIC No	Thru Date	DRG Plan ID	Rejected	Deductible	Co Ins	Cont Adj
Doc Ct No	Crossover Carrier Info						

[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]/2019	131	124.00	124.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]/2019	MEDICARE	0.00	82.87	0.00	41.13	0.00
[REDACTED]	AETNA, INC.		000000060					

Reason Detail...	Grp Cd	Ren Cd	Reason Description	Amount
	CO	45	CHARGE EXCEEDS FEE SCHEDULE/M/	41.13
	PR	1	DEDUCTIBLE AMT	82.87

Claim Remarks

MAP1741 NATIONAL GOVERNMENT SERVICES #14011 ACPFA181 01/10/19
 JXJ1341 SC CLAIM SUMMARY INQUIRY C201914F 10:13:24
 NPI 1376528398

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 OPERATOR ID JXJ1341 FROM DATE [REDACTED]19 TO DATE [REDACTED]19 DDE SORT
 MEDICAL REVIEW SELECT DCN

MID	PROV/MRN	S/LOC	TOB	ADM DT	FRM DT	THRU DT	REC DT
SEL LAST NAME	FIRST INIT	TOT CHG	PROV REIMB PD DT	CAN DT	REAS NPC	#DAYS	
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	S MOPPS	131	[REDACTED]19	[REDACTED]19	[REDACTED]19	
[REDACTED]	N	124.00			WW001		

PROCESS COMPLETED --- NO MORE DATA THIS TYPE
 PLEASE MAKE A SELECTION, ENTER NEW KEY DATA, OR PRESS PF3 TO EXIT

MAP1741 NATIONAL GOVERNMENT SERVICES #14011 ACPFA181 01/10/19
 JXJ1341 SC CLAIM SUMMARY INQUIRY C201914F 10:13:55
 NPI 1376528398

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 OPERATOR ID JXJ1341 FROM DATE [REDACTED]19 TO DATE [REDACTED]19 DDE SORT
 MEDICAL REVIEW SELECT DCN

MID	PROV/MRN	S/LOC	TOB	ADM DT	FRM DT	THRU DT	REC DT
SEL LAST NAME	FIRST INIT	TOT CHG	PROV REIMB PD DT	CAN DT	REAS NPC	#DAYS	
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	S MOPPS	131	[REDACTED]19	[REDACTED]19	[REDACTED]19	
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	350.00			WW001		

PROCESS COMPLETED --- NO MORE DATA THIS TYPE
 PLEASE MAKE A SELECTION, ENTER NEW KEY DATA, OR PRESS PF3 TO EXIT

1 YORK HOSPITAL 15 HOSPITAL DR YORK ME 039091011 2073634321										CNTL # 13320991060001 D. MED. REG. # [REDACTED] 0131	
8 PATIENT NAME [REDACTED]										9 PATIENT ADDRESS [REDACTED]	
10 BIRTHDATE [REDACTED] 11 SEX F 12 DATE 09 3 1 13 HR 14 TYPE 3 15 SRC 1 16 DHR 17 STAT 01										18 ACCT STATE 19	
31 OCCURRENCE CODE 11 [REDACTED] 19										32 OCCURRENCE DATE [REDACTED]	
33 OCCURRENCE CODE [REDACTED]										34 OCCURRENCE DATE [REDACTED]	
35 OCCURRENCE CODE [REDACTED]										36 OCCURRENCE DATE [REDACTED]	
37 OCCURRENCE CODE [REDACTED]										38 OCCURRENCE DATE [REDACTED]	
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43 REV. CD. 0510										44 DESCRIPTION PHYSICIAN PRACTICE CLINIC	
45 HCPCS / RATE / HIPPS CODE G0463 PO										46 SERV. DATE [REDACTED] 19	
47 SERV. UNITS 1										48 TOTAL CHARGES 124.00	
49 NON-COVERED CHARGES [REDACTED]										50 [REDACTED]	
0001 PAGE 001 OF 001										CREATION DATE [REDACTED] 19	
51 HEALTH PLAN ID [REDACTED]										52 PRIOR PAYMENTS [REDACTED]	
53 EST. AMOUNT DUE [REDACTED]										54 NPI 1376628398	
55 OTHER PRV ID [REDACTED]										56 [REDACTED]	
57 INSURED'S NAME [REDACTED]										58 PREL 18	
59 INSURED'S UNIQUE ID [REDACTED]										60 GROUP NAME [REDACTED]	
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63 TREATMENT AUTHORIZATION CODES [REDACTED]										64 DOCUMENT CONTROL NUMBER [REDACTED]	
65 EMPLOYER NAME [REDACTED]										66 [REDACTED]	
67 [REDACTED]										68 [REDACTED]	
69 ADMIT DATE [REDACTED]										70 PATIENT REASON DX J329	
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LAST BURKE										FIRST RACHEL	
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LAST [REDACTED]										FIRST [REDACTED]	
75 OTHER NPI [REDACTED]										QUAL [REDACTED]	
LAST [REDACTED]										FIRST [REDACTED]	
76 OTHER NPI [REDACTED]										QUAL [REDACTED]	
LAST [REDACTED]										FIRST [REDACTED]	
77 REMARKS MEDICARE A AND B										81CC a B3 282N00000X	
PO BOX 7091										b B1 WHITE	
INDIANAPOLIS IN 482077091										c B2 M	
82 [REDACTED]										83 [REDACTED]	

MAP1716 PAGE 06 NATIONAL GOVERNMENT SERVICES #14011 ACPFA181 01/21/19
SHN1844 SC INST CLAIM INQUIRY A20191AP 11:26:33

MID [REDACTED] TOB 131 S/LOC P B9997 PROVIDER 200020
MSP ADDITIONAL INSURER INFORMATION

1ST INSURERS ADDRESS 1
1ST INSURERS ADDRESS 2
CITY ST ZIP

2ND INSURERS ADDRESS 1
2ND INSURERS ADDRESS 2
CITY ST ZIP

PAYMENT DATA --- DEDUCTIBLE 82.87 COIN CROSSOVER IND
PARTNER ID

PAID DATE 012219 PROVIDER PAYMENT .00 PAID BY PATIENT
REIMB RATE .36 RECEIPT DATE 010819 PROVIDER INTEREST
CHECK/EFT NO EFT1118593 CHECK/EFT ISSUE DATE 012219 PAYMENT CODE ACH
PIP PAY AS CASH PRICER DATA HOSPICE PRIOR DYS
DRG OUTLIER AMT TTL BLNDED PAYMT FED SPEC
GRAMM RUDMAN ORIG REIMBURSEMENT AMT .00 NET INL
TECH PROV DAYS TECH PROV CHARGES
OTHER INS ID CLINIC CODE

37190 <== REASON CODES

PRESS PF3-EXIT PF7-PREV PAGE

MAP1741 NATIONAL GOVERNMENT SERVICES #14011 ACPFA181 01/10/19
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NPI 1376528398

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OPERATOR ID JXJ1341 FROM DATE [REDACTED] 19 TO DATE [REDACTED] 19 DDE SORT
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MID PROV/MRN S/LOC TOB ADM DT FRM DT THRU DT REC DT
SEL LAST NAME FIRST INIT TOT CHG PROV REIMB PD DT CAN DT REAS NPC #DAYS
[REDACTED] S MOPPS 131 [REDACTED] 19 [REDACTED] 19 [REDACTED] 19
[REDACTED] 124.00 [REDACTED] WW001

PROCESS COMPLETED --- NO MORE DATA THIS TYPE
PLEASE MAKE A SELECTION, ENTER NEW KEY DATA, OR PRESS PF3 TO EXIT

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JXJ1341 SC CLAIM SUMMARY INQUIRY C201914F 10:14:42
NPI 1376528398

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OPERATOR ID JXJ1341 FROM DATE [REDACTED] 19 TO DATE [REDACTED] 19 DDE SORT
MEDICAL REVIEW SELECT DCN

MID PROV/MRN S/LOC TOB ADM DT FRM DT THRU DT REC DT
SEL LAST NAME FIRST INIT TOT CHG PROV REIMB PD DT CAN DT REAS NPC #DAYS
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[REDACTED] 124.00 [REDACTED] WW001

PROCESS COMPLETED --- NO MORE DATA THIS TYPE
PLEASE MAKE A SELECTION, ENTER NEW KEY DATA, OR PRESS PF3 TO EXIT

YORK HOSPITAL 15 HOSPITAL DR YORK ME 039091011 2073634321										CNTL # 0000000000 0131	
5 FED. TAX NO. 01-0212444										STATEMENT COVER PERIOD FROM 18 THROUGH 19	
8 PATIENT NAME										9 PATIENT ADDRESS	
10 BIRTHDATE										11 SEX F	
12 DATE										13 HR 08	
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MAP1716 PAGE 06 NATIONAL GOVERNMENT SERVICES #14011 ACPFA181 01/21/19
SHN1844 SC INST CLAIM INQUIRY A20191AP 11:31:25

MID ██████████ TOB 131 S/LOC P B9997 PROVIDER 200020
MSP ADDITIONAL INSURER INFORMATION

1ST INSURERS ADDRESS 1
1ST INSURERS ADDRESS 2
CITY ST ZIP

2ND INSURERS ADDRESS 1
2ND INSURERS ADDRESS 2
CITY ST ZIP

PAYMENT DATA --- DEDUCTIBLE 82.87 COIN CROSSOVER IND 1
PARTNER ID 000030067 P

PAID DATE 012219 PROVIDER PAYMENT .00 PAID BY PATIENT
REIMB RATE .36 RECEIPT DATE 010719 PROVIDER INTEREST
CHECK/EFT NO EFT1118593 CHECK/EFT ISSUE DATE 012219 PAYMENT CODE ACH
PIP PAY AS CASH PRICER DATA HOSPICE PRIOR DYS
DRG OUTLIER AMT TTL BLNDED PAYMT FED SPEC
GRAMM RUDMAN ORIG REIMBURSEMENT AMT .00 NET INL
TECH PROV DAYS TECH PROV CHARGES
OTHER INS ID CLINIC CODE

37190

<== REASON CODES

PRESS PF3-EXIT PF7-PREV PAGE

MAP1881 NATIONAL GOVERNMENT SERVICES #14011 ACPFA181 01/10/19
JXJ1341 SC REASON CODES INQUIRY C201914F 10:01:53
MNT: JOB3763 010919

PLAN	REAS	NARR	EFF	MSN	EFF	TERM	EMC	HC/PRO	PP	CC
IND	CODE	TYPE	DATE	REAS	DATE	DATE	ST/LOC	ST/LOC	LOC	IND
1	WW001	E	063005				S MOPPS	S MOPPS		
TPTP	A	B	NPCD A	B	HD CPY A	B	NB ADR	CAL DY	C/L	C

-----NARRATIVE-----

THIS IS A TEMPORARY EDIT TO SUSPEND ALL CLAIMS WITH STATEMENT THRU DATE
GREATER THAN 12/31/18.
NO PROVIDER ACTION IS NECESSARY.

PROCESS COMPLETED --- NO MORE DATA THIS TYPE
PRESS PF3-EXIT PF6-SCROLL FWD PF8-NEXT

Remittance Header
 Remittance ID: MED A
 Provider Number: 1376528398
 File Creation Date: 01/19/2019
 Payment Date: 01/22/2019
 Provider Group: MEDICARE PART A
 Payer Name: NATIONAL GOVERNMENT SERVICES, INC.
 File Control Number: 116300427
 Today's Date: 01/25/2019 09:39
 Page: 1 of 2

Claim Header
 Invoice Number: [REDACTED]
 Patient Name: [REDACTED]
 Member Identification: [REDACTED]
 Plan ID: MEDICARE
 Rank: Primary
 Claim Status: Processed as Primary
 Claim Start Date: [REDACTED] / 2019
 Claim End Date: [REDACTED] / 2019
 Invoice Type: UB
 Document Ctl No: 21900700897804MEA
 Coverage Exp Date: [REDACTED]
 Claim Received Date: [REDACTED]
 UB TOB: 131

Outpatient Adjudication Info
 Reimbursement Rate: .36
 HCPCS Payable Amt:
 End Stage Renal Disease Amt:
 Additional Claim Information
 Crossover Carrier: ANTHEM BCBS NORTHEAST REGION
 Payer Identification: 000030067

Claim Remark Codes
 MA01 N793 MA1B

Medical Record Identification Number: [REDACTED]
 Coverage Amount: 124.00
 Per Day Limit: 0.36

Total Billed	Cov Chgs	Non-Cov	Rejected	Deductible	Co-Ins	Cont Adj Paid Amount	Prof Comp	Interest
124.00	124.00	0.00	0.00	82.87	0.00	41.13	0.00	0.00
Billed Amt	Cov Chgs	Non-Cov	Rejected	Deductible	Co-Ins	Cont Adj. Payment	Prof Comp	Interest
124.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	82.87	0.00	41.13	0.00	0.00

Line Items... Service Date: 2019
 Billed Proc: G0463 PO
 Paid Proc: G0463 PO
 Qty: 1
 Ambulatory Patient Group (APG) Number: 05012
 Ambulatory Payment Classification: 05012
 Allowed - Actual: 124.00
 Reason Detail... Grp Cd: CC Rsn Cd: 45 Amount: 41.13
 Reason Description: CHARGE EXCEEDS FEE

PR	1	SCHEDULE/MAX ALL	
		DEDUCTIBLE AMT	82.87

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
CENTERS FOR MEDICARE & MEDICAID SERVICES

MEDICARE REDETERMINATION REQUEST FORM — 1ST LEVEL OF APPEAL

- 1. Beneficiary's name: _____
- 2. Medicare number: _____
- 3. Item or service you wish to appeal: GO463
- 4. Date the service or item was received: _____/2019
- 5. Date of the initial determination notice (please include a copy of the notice with this request):
(If you received your initial determination notice more than 120 days ago, include your reason for the late filing.)
1/22/2019

5a. Name of the Medicare contractor that made the determination (not required):
NATIONAL GOVERNMENT SERVICES

5b. Does this appeal involve an overpayment? Yes No
(for providers and suppliers only)

6. I do not agree with the determination decision on my claim because:
On Nov. 21, 2018, CMS published in the Federal Register a final rule with comment period reducing Medicare payment rates for clinic visit services at certain off-campus provider-based departments (excepted off-campus PBDs). As explained in comments on the proposed rule (see 83 Fed. Reg. 59,004-15), the payment reduction exceeds the scope of the Secretary's statutory authority. The payment reduction is unlawful and ultra vires.

7. Additional information Medicare should consider:
The payment reduction for clinic visit services furnished at excepted off-campus PBDs is unlawful and ultra vires because it violates the statutory requirement that adjustments to payment rates be budget neutral and because it ignores the statutory distinction between excepted and non-excepted off-campus PBDs. The wage adjusted payment rate for the claimed services should be \$118.38.

8. I have evidence to submit. Please attach the evidence to this form or attach a statement explaining what you intend to submit and when you intend to submit it. You may also submit additional evidence at a later time, but all evidence must be received prior to the issuance of the redetermination.
 I do not have evidence to submit.

9. Person appealing: Beneficiary Provider/Supplier Representative

10. Name, address, and telephone number of person appealing: LINDA DICKSON, YORK HOSPITAL
15 HOSPITAL DRIVE, YORK MAINE, 03909 207-351-2380

11. Signature of person appealing: 

12. Date signed: 1/25/2019

PRIVACY ACT STATEMENT: The legal authority for the collection of information on this form is authorized by section 1869 (a)(3) of the Social Security Act. The information provided will be used to further document your appeal. Submission of the information requested on this form is voluntary, but failure to provide all or any part of the requested information may affect the determination of your appeal. Information you furnish on this form may be disclosed by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services to another person or government agency only with respect to the Medicare Program and to comply with Federal laws requiring or permitting the disclosure of information or the exchange of information between the Department of Health and Human Services and other agencies. Additional information about these disclosures can be found in the system of records notice for system no. 09-70-0566, as amended, available at 71 Fed. Reg. 54489 (2006) or at <http://www.cms.gov/PrivacyActSystemofRecords/downloads/0566.pdf>

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
CENTERS FOR MEDICARE & MEDICAID SERVICES

MEDICARE REDETERMINATION REQUEST FORM — 1ST LEVEL OF APPEAL

- 1. Beneficiary's name: [REDACTED]
- 2. Medicare number: [REDACTED]
- 3. Item or service you wish to appeal: GO463
- 4. Date the service or item was received: [REDACTED] 2019
- 5. Date of the initial determination notice (please include a copy of the notice with this request):
(If you received your initial determination notice more than 120 days ago, include your reason for the late filing.)
1/22/2019

5a. Name of the Medicare contractor that made the determination (not required):
NATIONAL GOVERNMENT SERVICES

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(for providers and suppliers only)

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10. Name, address, and telephone number of person appealing: LINDA DICKSON, YORK HOSPITAL
15 HOSPITAL DRIVE, YORK MAINE, 03909 207-351-2380

11. Signature of person appealing: 

12. Date signed: 1/25/2019

PRIVACY ACT STATEMENT: The legal authority for the collection of information on this form is authorized by section 1869 (a)(3) of the Social Security Act. The information provided will be used to further document your appeal. Submission of the information requested on this form is voluntary, but failure to provide all or any part of the requested information may affect the determination of your appeal. Information you furnish on this form may be disclosed by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services to another person or government agency only with respect to the Medicare Program and to comply with Federal laws requiring or permitting the disclosure of information or the exchange of information between the Department of Health and Human Services and other agencies. Additional information about these disclosures can be found in the system of records notice for system no. 09-70-0566, as amended, available at 71 Fed. Reg. 54489 (2006) or at <http://www.cms.gov/PrivacyActSystemofRecords/downloads/0566.pdf>

Remittance Header
 MED A MEDICARE PART A Today's Date: 01/25/2019 14:51
 1376528398 YORK HOSPITAL NATIONAL GOVERNMENT SERVICES, INC. Page: 1 of 2
 01/19/2019 File Control Number: 116300427
 01/22/2019

Claim Header
 Invoice Number: [REDACTED]
 Patient Name: [REDACTED]
 Member Identification: [REDACTED]
 Plan ID: MEDICARE A & B
 Rank: Primary
 Claim Status: Processed as Primary
 Claim Start Date: 2019 Coverage Exp Date: [REDACTED]
 Claim End Date: 2019 Claim Received Date: [REDACTED]
 Invoice Type: UB UB TOB: 131
 Document Ctl No: 21900800674004MEA

Outpatient Adjudication Info
 Reimbursement Rate: .36
 HCPCS Payable Amt: [REDACTED]
 End Stage Renal Disease Amt: [REDACTED]
 Additional Claim Information
 Crossover Carrier: HARVARD PILGRIM HEALTH CARE
 Payor Identification: 000030317

Claim Remark Codes
 MA01 N793 MA18 N89

Medical Record Identification Number:	Coverage Amount:	Per Day Limit:	Total Billed	Cov Chgs	Non-Cov	Rejected	Deductible	Co-Ins	Cont Adj Paid Amount	Prof Comp	Interest
[REDACTED]	124.00		124.00	124.00	0.00	0.00	82.87	0.00	41.13	0.00	0.00
	0.36										
			124.00	124.00	0.00	0.00	82.87	0.00	41.13	0.00	0.00
			Billed Amt	Cov Chgs	Non-Cov	Rejected	Deductible	Co-Ins	Cont Adj Payment	Prof Comp	Interest
**			124.00	124.00	0.00	0.00	82.87	0.00	41.13	0.00	0.00
			05012								
			05012								
			124.00								

Ambulatory Patient Group (APG) Number:
 Ambulatory Payment Classification:
 Allowed - Actual:
 Reason Detail... Grp Cd Rsn Cd Reason Description Amount
 CQ 45 CHARGE EXCEEDS FEE 41.13

SCHEDULE/MAX. ALL	
DEDUCTIBLE AMT	82.87
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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
CENTERS FOR MEDICARE & MEDICAID SERVICES

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1/22/2019

5a. Name of the Medicare contractor that made the determination (not required):
NATIONAL GOVERNMENT SERVICES

5b. Does this appeal involve an overpayment? Yes No
(for providers and suppliers only)

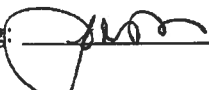
6. I do not agree with the determination decision on my claim because:
On Nov. 21, 2018, CMS published in the Federal Register a final rule with comment period reducing Medicare payment rates for clinic visit services at certain off-campus provider-based departments (excepted off-campus PBDs). As explained in comments on the proposed rule (see 83 Fed. Reg. 59,004-15), the payment reduction exceeds the scope of the Secretary's statutory authority. The payment reduction is unlawful and ultra vires.

7. Additional information Medicare should consider:
The payment reduction for clinic visit services furnished at excepted off-campus PBDs is unlawful and ultra vires because it violates the statutory requirement that adjustments to payment rates be budget neutral and because it ignores the statutory distinction between excepted and non-excepted off-campus PBDs. The wage adjusted payment rate for the claimed services should be \$118.38.

8. I have evidence to submit. Please attach the evidence to this form or attach a statement explaining what you intend to submit and when you intend to submit it. You may also submit additional evidence at a later time, but all evidence must be received prior to the issuance of the redetermination.
 I do not have evidence to submit.

9. Person appealing: Beneficiary Provider/Supplier Representative

10. Name, address, and telephone number of person appealing: LINDA DICKSON, YORK HOSPITAL
15 HOSPITAL DRIVE, YORK MAINE, 03909 207-351-2380

11. Signature of person appealing: 
12. Date signed: 1/25/2019

PRIVACY ACT STATEMENT: The legal authority for the collection of information on this form is authorized by section 1869 (a)(3) of the Social Security Act. The information provided will be used to further document your appeal. Submission of the information requested on this form is voluntary, but failure to provide all or any part of the requested information may affect the determination of your appeal. Information you furnish on this form may be disclosed by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services to another person or government agency only with respect to the Medicare Program and to comply with Federal laws requiring or permitting the disclosure of information or the exchange of information between the Department of Health and Human Services and other agencies. Additional information about these disclosures can be found in the system of records notice for system no. 09-70-0566, as amended, available at 71 Fed. Reg. 54489 (2006) or at <http://www.cms.gov/PrivacyActSystemofRecords/downloads/0566.pdf>

Remittance Header
 Remittance ID: MED A
 Provider Number: 1376528398
 File Creation Date: 01/19/2019
 Payment Date: 01/22/2019
 Provider Group: MEDICARE PART A
 Payor Name: NATIONAL GOVERNMENT SERVICES, INC.
 File Control Number: 116300427
 Today's Date: 01/25/2019 14:55
 Page: 1 of 2

Claim Header
 Invoice Number: [REDACTED]
 Patient Name: [REDACTED]
 Member Identification: [REDACTED]
 Plan ID: MEDICARE
 Rank: Primary
 Claim Status: Processed as Primary
 Claim Start Date: 2019
 Claim End Date: 2019
 Invoice Type: UB
 Document Ctl No: 21900800674404MEA
 Coverage Exp Date: [REDACTED]
 Claim Received Date: [REDACTED]
 UB TOB: 131

Outpatient Adjudication Info
 Reimbursement Rate: .36
 HCPCS Payable Amt: [REDACTED]
 End Stage Renal Disease Amt: [REDACTED]
 Additional Claim Information
 Crossover Carrier: AETNA, INC.
 Payor Identification: 000000060

Claim Remark Codes
 MA01 N793 MA18

Line Items...	Service Date	Billed Proc	Paid Proc	Qty	Total Billed	Cov Chgs	Non-Cov	Rejected	Deductible	Co-Ins	Cont Adj Paid Amount	Prof Comp	Interest
**	2019	G0463 PO	G0463 PO	1	124.00	124.00	0.00	0.00	82.87	0.00	41.13	0.00	0.00
Ambulatory Patient Group (APG) Number: 05012													
Ambulatory Payment Classification: 05012													
Allowed - Actual: 124.00													
Reason Detail... Grp Cd Rsn Cd Reason Description Amount													
CG 45 CHARGE EXCEEDS FEE 41.13													

PR	1	SCHEDULE/MAX ALL DEDUCTIBLE AMT	82.87
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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
CENTERS FOR MEDICARE & MEDICAID SERVICES

MEDICARE REDETERMINATION REQUEST FORM — 1ST LEVEL OF APPEAL

- 1. Beneficiary's name: _____
- 2. Medicare number: _____
- 3. Item or service you wish to appeal: GO463
- 4. Date the service or item was received: 1/22/2019
- 5. Date of the initial determination notice (please include a copy of the notice with this request):
(If you received your initial determination notice more than 120 days ago, include your reason for the late filing.)
1/22/2019

5a. Name of the Medicare contractor that made the determination (not required):
NATIONAL GOVERNMENT SERVICES

5b. Does this appeal involve an overpayment? Yes No
(for providers and suppliers only)

6. I do not agree with the determination decision on my claim because:
On Nov. 21, 2018, CMS published in the Federal Register a final rule with comment period reducing Medicare payment rates for clinic visit services at certain off-campus provider-based departments (excepted off-campus PBDs). As explained in comments on the proposed rule (see 83 Fed. Reg. 59,004-15), the payment reduction exceeds the scope of the Secretary's statutory authority. The payment reduction is unlawful and ultra vires.

7. Additional information Medicare should consider:
The payment reduction for clinic visit services furnished at excepted off-campus PBDs is unlawful and ultra vires because it violates the statutory requirement that adjustments to payment rates be budget neutral and because it ignores the statutory distinction between excepted and non-excepted off-campus PBDs. The wage adjusted payment rate for the claimed services should be \$118.38.

8. I have evidence to submit. Please attach the evidence to this form or attach a statement explaining what you intend to submit and when you intend to submit it. You may also submit additional evidence at a later time, but all evidence must be received prior to the issuance of the redetermination.
 I do not have evidence to submit.

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10. Name, address, and telephone number of person appealing: LINDA DICKSON, YORK HOSPITAL
15 HOSPITAL DRIVE, YORK MAINE, 03909 207-351-2380

11. Signature of person appealing: 

12. Date signed: 1/25/2019

PRIVACY ACT STATEMENT: The legal authority for the collection of information on this form is authorized by section 1869 (a)(3) of the Social Security Act. The information provided will be used to further document your appeal. Submission of the information requested on this form is voluntary, but failure to provide all or any part of the requested information may affect the determination of your appeal. Information you furnish on this form may be disclosed by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services to another person or government agency only with respect to the Medicare Program and to comply with Federal laws requiring or permitting the disclosure of information or the exchange of information between the Department of Health and Human Services and other agencies. Additional information about these disclosures can be found in the system of records notice for system no. 09-70-0566, as amended, available at 71 Fed. Reg. 54489 (2006) or at <http://www.cms.gov/PrivacyActSystemofRecords/downloads/0566.pdf>

Remittance Header
 MED A MEDICARE PART A MEDICARE PART A Today's Date: 01/25/2019 14:55
 Provider ID: 1376528398 YORK HOSPITAL NATIONAL GOVERNMENT SERVICES, INC. Page: 1 of 2
 File Creation Date: 01/19/2019
 Payment Date: 01/22/2019
 File Control Number: 116300427

Claim Header
 Invoice Number: [Redacted]
 Patient Name: [Redacted]
 Member Identificatio: [Redacted]
 Plan ID: MEDICARE A & B
 Rank: Primary
 Claim Status: Processed as Primary:
 Claim Start Date: 2019 Coverage Exp Date: [Redacted]
 Claim End Date: 2019 Claim Received Date: [Redacted]
 Invoice Type: UB UB TOB: 131
 Document Ctl No: 21900800675304MEA

Outpatient Adjudication Info
 Reimbursement Rate: .36
 HCPCS Payable Amt:
 End Stage Renal Disease Amt:

Claim Remark Codes
 MA01 N793

Additional Claim Information

Line Items...	Service Date	Billed Proc	Paid Proc	Qty	Cov Chgs	Non-Cov	Rejected	Deductible	Co-Ins	Cont Adj Paid Amount	Prof Comp	Interest
**	2019	G0463 PO	G0463 PO	1	124.00	0.00	0.00	82.87	0.00	41.13	0.00	0.00
Ambulatory Patient Group (APG) Number: 05012												
Ambulatory Payment Classification: 05012												
Allowed - Actual: 124.00												
Reason Detail... Grp Cd Rsn Cd Reason Description Amount												
CC 45 CHARGE EXCEEDS FEE 41.13												

PR	1	SCHEDULE/MAX ALL DEDUCTIBLE AMT	82.87
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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
CENTERS FOR MEDICARE & MEDICAID SERVICES

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- 1. Beneficiary's name: _____
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- 3. Item or service you wish to appeal: GO463
- 4. Date the service or item was received: 2019
- 5. Date of the initial determination notice (please include a copy of the notice with this request):
(If you received your initial determination notice more than 120 days ago, include your reason for the late filing.)
1/22/2019

5a. Name of the Medicare contractor that made the determination (not required):
NATIONAL GOVERNMENT SERVICES

5b. Does this appeal involve an overpayment? Yes No
(for providers and suppliers only)

6. I do not agree with the determination decision on my claim because:
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10. Name, address, and telephone number of person appealing: LINDA DICKSON, YORK HOSPITAL
15 HOSPITAL DRIVE, YORK MAINE, 03909 207-351-2380

11. Signature of person appealing: 

12. Date signed: 1/25/2019

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Remittance Header
 Remittance ID: MED A
 Provider Group: MEDICARE PART A
 Provider Number: 1376528398
 Payor Name: YORK HOSPITAL
 File Creation Date: 01/19/2019
 Payment Date: 01/22/2019
 Today's Date: 01/26/2019 14:56
 Page: 1 of 2
 Medicare Part A: NATIONAL GOVERNMENT SERVICES, INC.
 File Control Number: 116300427

Claim Header
 Invoice Number: [REDACTED]
 Patient Name: [REDACTED]
 Member Identification: [REDACTED]
 Plan ID: MEDICARE
 Rank: Primary
 Claim Status: Processed as Primary
 Claim Start Date: 2019
 Claim End Date: 2019
 Invoice Type: UB
 Document Ctl No: 21900700897804MEA
 Coverage Exp Date: [REDACTED]
 Claim Received Date: [REDACTED]
 UB TOB: 131

Outpatient Adjudication Info
 Reimbursement Rate: .36
 HCPCS Payable Amt: [REDACTED]
 End Stage Renal Disease Amt: [REDACTED]
 Additional Claim Information
 Crossover Carrier: ANTHEM BCBS NORTHEAST REGION
 Payor Identification: 000030067

Claim Remark Codes
 MA01 N793 MA18

Line Items... Service Date	Billed Proc	Paid Proc	Qty	Cov Chgs	Non-Cov	Rejected	Deductible	Co-Ins	Cont-Adj Paid Amount	Prof Comp	Interest
** 01/19/2019	G0463 PO	G0463 PO	1	124.00	0.00	0.00	82.87	0.00	41.13	0.00	0.00
Ambulatory Patient Group (APG) Number: 05012											
Ambulatory Payment Classification: 05012											
Allowed - Actual: 124.00											
Reason Detail... Grp Cd Rsn Cd Reason Description Amount											
CC 45 CHARGE EXCEEDS FEE 41.13											

PR	1	SCHEDULE/MAX ALL DEDUCTIBLE AMT	82.87
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IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

<hr/>)
THE AMERICAN HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION,))
ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN MEDICAL))
COLLEGES, MERCY HEALTH MUSKEGON,))
CLALLAM COUNTY PUBLIC HOSPITAL))
NO. 2 d/b/a/ OLYMPIC MEDICAL CENTER,))
and YORK HOSPITAL,))
))
<i>Plaintiffs,</i>))
))
v.)	Civil Action No. 1:18-cv-2841
))
ALEX M. AZAR II,))
in his official capacity as SECRETARY OF))
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES,))
))
<i>Defendant.</i>))
<hr/>)

DECLARATION OF KRISTI K. NAGENGAST IN SUPPORT OF
PLAINTIFFS' MOTION FOR SUMMARY JUDGMENT

I, Kristi K. Nagengast, hereby declare and state the following:

1. My name is Kristi K. Nagengast. I am over 21 years of age and competent to testify to the facts set forth herein. I am an adult citizen of the United States. I reside in Muskegon, Michigan.

2. The facts set forth in this declaration are based on my personal knowledge and upon information available to me through the files and records of Mercy Health Muskegon. If called upon as a witness, I could and would testify to these facts.

3. I am the Vice President of Finance for Mercy Health Muskegon. In this role, I am responsible for providing financial oversight and leadership to Mercy Health Muskegon. In my

capacity as Vice President of Finance, I am familiar with the impact that the clinic visit policy at issue in this lawsuit will have on Mercy Health Muskegon and its operations.

4. Mercy Health Muskegon is a Catholic nonprofit hospital that serves the greater Muskegon, Michigan area and surrounding communities. It is a teaching hospital, with more than 4,000 colleagues, and has 19,000 inpatient discharges and approximately 150,000 emergency or urgent care visits each year. Mercy Health Muskegon is a member of the American Hospital Association.

5. Mercy Health Muskegon has filed this lawsuit (along with its co-plaintiffs) challenging as *ultra vires* a payment reduction implemented by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) as part of the calendar year (CY) 2019 Medicare outpatient prospective payment system (OPPS) final rule (Final Rule).

6. Mercy Health Muskegon operates 27 off-campus PBDs, 25 of which are “excepted” off-campus PBDs. These include a sleep center, a comprehensive breast high-risk clinic, specialty clinics (including neurosurgery, cardiology, geriatrics, and gastroenterology clinics), and a number of primary care facilities capable of providing x-ray, laboratory, and pharmacy services in the same building. Mercy Health Muskegon furnishes outpatient services at these excepted off-campus PBDs and will suffer immediate and concrete harm from the outpatient-services payment reductions set forth in the Final Rule.

7. The ultimate reductions in payments for covered Medicare-funded outpatient services Mercy Health Muskegon faces will have a significant impact, both economic and non-economic, on its operations, its patients and the greater community. Mercy Health Muskegon estimates that the clinic visit policy set forth in the Final Rule will cause it to suffer a \$1.8

million annual loss the first year, and a \$3.6 million annual loss in future years. This equates to a 6% reduction in annual operating income the first year and a 12% reduction in future years.

8. Mercy Health Muskegon serves a community with substantial needs, and it does so while managing a challenging payor mix that is approximately 46% Medicare, 35% commercial, and 18% Medicaid, at the impacted PBD sites. Reduced payments for services provided to Medicare covered patients could impact Mercy Health Muskegon's ability to offer services and fund service lines which are particularly challenging to maintain from a financial perspective but are critically needed in our community, such as pain management, inpatient behavioral health, and the Muskegon Community Health Project (Health Project), the community health and well-being arm of Mercy Health Muskegon. This nationally recognized program does community-based work such as connecting patients and families to critically needed health and social support programs that address the social determinants of health such as housing, transportation, food security and safety. It also focuses on prevention work and supports the reductions of reoccurring health issues and readmissions for vulnerable patients. In 2019, the Health Project will require more than \$3 million in direct investment from Mercy Health Muskegon in order to continue operating at its current levels.

9. Vacating the clinic visit policy contained in the Final Rule and ensuring that Medicare payments for outpatient services are made in line with Congress's intent would help remedy the harm Mercy Health Muskegon faces from CMS's unlawful conduct.

10. On January 22, 2019, Mercy Health Muskegon submitted claims for excepted off-campus physician clinic visit services covered by the Final Rule to its Medicare Administrative Contractor. The Medicare Administrative Contractor has not responded to those claims yet.

11. True and correct copies of these documents are attached as Exhibit A.

I declare under penalty of perjury pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1746 that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed this 25 day of January 2019.

By: Kristi K Nagengast

Kristi K. Nagengast, Vice President, Finance
Mercy Health Muskegon

Exhibit A



MercyHealth.com

January 22, 2018

Medicare AMI: WPS PBB
PO Box 8800
Marion, IL 62959-0800

RE: Claim For Services – [REDACTED], Claim # [REDACTED]
Tax ID #38-2589966

Dear Provider Services:

On Nov. 21, 2018, CMS published in the Federal Register a final rule with comment period reducing Medicare payment rates for clinic visit services at certain off-campus provider-based departments (excepted off-campus PBDs). As explained in comments on the proposed rule (see 83 Fed. Reg. 59,004-15), the payment reduction exceeds the scope of the Secretary's statutory authority. The payment reduction is unlawful and *ultra vires* because it violates the statutory requirement that adjustments to payment rates be budget neutral and because it ignores the statutory distinction between excepted and non-excepted off-campus PBDs. The payment rate for the claimed services should be \$456.47.

Sincerely,

Michelle Lohman, Regional Director, Physician Revenue Cycle
Mercy Health

Cc: Kristi K. Nagengast, Vice President Finance
Randall M. Smith, General Counsel

General Campus
1700 Oak Avenue
Muskegon, MI 49444
231.672.2000
800.368.4125

Hackley Campus
1700 Clinton Street
Muskegon, MI 49442
231.726.3511
800.825.4677

Lakeshore Campus
72 S. State Street
Shelby, MI 49455
731.861.2156

Mercy Campus
1500 E. Sherman Boulevard
Muskegon, MI 49444
231.672.2000
800.368.4125

MERCY HEALTH MUSKEGON 1700 CLINTON ST. MUSKEGON MI 494425502 (231) 7274444	MERCY HEALTH MUSKEGON DEPT. CH. 14366 PALATINE IL 600554366 (866) 6111512	3a PAT. CMTL # b. MED. REC. # 5 FED. TAX NO.	STATEMENT COVERS PERIOD FROM 19 THROUGH 19	TYPE OF BILL 0131
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8 PATIENT NAME		9 PATIENT ADDRESS	
10 BIRTHDATE	11 SEX	12 DATE	13 HR
14 TYPE	15 SRC	16 DHR	17 STAT
CONDITION CODES			
18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29
30	ACDT STATE		

31 OCCURRENCE DATE 32 OCCURRENCE DATE 33 OCCURRENCE DATE 34 OCCURRENCE DATE 35 OCCURRENCE SPAN FROM THROUGH 36 OCCURRENCE SPAN FROM THROUGH 37 OCCURRENCE SPAN FROM THROUGH				38 VALUE CODES AMOUNT 39 VALUE CODES AMOUNT 40 VALUE CODES AMOUNT	
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42 REV. CD.	43 DESCRIPTION	44 ICD9S / RATE / NPPS CODE	45 SERV. DATE	46 SERV. UNITS	47 TOTAL CHARGES	48 NON COVERED CHARGES	49
0480	ECHOCARDIOGRAPHY - TRANS	93306 PO	19	1	540.00		
0510	HOSPITAL OP CLINIC VISIT	G0463 P025	19	1	128.00		
0730	ECG - 12 LEAD; TRACING O	93005 P059	19	1	65.00		
					TOTALS	733.00	0.00

0001	PAGE 1 OF 1	CREATION DATE	19	TOTALS	733.00	0.00	
60 PAYER NAME		61 HEALTH PLAN ID	62 REL. REP.	63 BEN.	64 PRIOR PAYMENTS	65 EST. AMOUNT DUE	66 NPI
MEDICARE			Y	Y	0.00	733.00	1831132133
MEDICAID UBMI: INSTITU			Y	Y			

68 INSURED'S NAME		69 P. REL.	70 INSURED'S UNIQUE ID	61 GROUP NAME	62 INSURANCE GROUP NO.
[REDACTED]		18	[REDACTED]		
[REDACTED]		18	[REDACTED]		

63 TREATMENT AUTHORIZATION CODES		64 DOCUMENT CONTROL NUMBER		65 EMPLOYER NAME	
69 I350	I517	I2510	E785	G4733	

69 ADMIT DX	70 PATIENT REASON DX	71 PPS CODE	72 ECI	73
	I350			
74 PRINCIPAL PROCEDURE CODE	75 OTHER PROCEDURE CODE	76 OTHER PROCEDURE CODE	77 ATTENDING NPI	78 OTHER DN
			1407842362	1891752168
74 OTHER PROCEDURE CODE	75 OTHER PROCEDURE CODE	76 OTHER PROCEDURE CODE	77 OPERATING NPI	78 OTHER NPI

80 REMARKS		81CC a	81CC b	81CC c	81CC d	82 LAST	83 FIRST
		B3282N00000X				ORAVITAN	IONUT
						ORAVITAN	MARILENA



MercyHealth.com

January 22, 2018

Medicare AMI: WPS PBB
PO BOX 8800
Marion, IL 62959-0800

RE: Claim For Services - [REDACTED], Claim # [REDACTED]
Tax ID #38-2589966

Dear Provider Services:

On Nov. 21, 2018, CMS published in the Federal Register a final rule with comment period reducing Medicare payment rates for clinic visit services at certain off-campus provider-based departments (excepted off-campus PBDs). As explained in comments on the proposed rule (see 83 Fed. Reg. 59,004-15), the payment reduction exceeds the scope of the Secretary's statutory authority. The payment reduction is unlawful and *ultra vires* because it violates the statutory requirement that adjustments to payment rates be budget neutral and because it ignores the statutory distinction between excepted and non-excepted off-campus PBDs. The payment rate for the claimed services should be \$86.44.

Sincerely,

Michelle Lohman, Regional Director, Physician Revenue Cycle
Mercy Health

Cc: Kristi K. Nagengast, Vice President Finance
Randall M. Smith, General Counsel

General Campus
1700 Oak Avenue
Muskegon, MI 49444
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800.368.4125

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MERCY HEALTH MUSKEGON 1700 CLINTON ST. MUSKEGON MI 494425502 (231) 7274444										MERCY HEALTH MUSKEGON DEPT CH 14366 PALATINE IL 600554366 (866) 6111512										38 PAT. CHIL # b. MED. REC. #		TYPE OF BILL 0131																																															
6 PATIENT NAME [REDACTED]										9 PATIENT ADDRESS [REDACTED]										6 FED. TAX NO. 382589966		7 STATEMENT COVERS PERIOD FROM THROUGH 19 19																																															
10 BIRTHDATE [REDACTED]										11 SEX [REDACTED]										12 DATE 19		13 ADMISSION 13 HR 3		14 TYPE 1		15 SRC 01		16 DHR [REDACTED]		17 STAT [REDACTED]		18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 ACCT STATE [REDACTED]		30 US																																			
31 OCCURRENCE DATE [REDACTED]										32 OCCURRENCE DATE [REDACTED]										33 OCCURRENCE DATE [REDACTED]										34 OCCURRENCE DATE [REDACTED]										35 OCCURRENCE DATE [REDACTED]										36 OCCURRENCE SPAN FROM THROUGH [REDACTED]										37 OCCURRENCE SPAN FROM THROUGH [REDACTED]									
38 MEDICARE AMI: WPS PBB PO BOX 8800 MARION IL 62959-0800										39 CODE [REDACTED]		40 VALUE CODES AMOUNT [REDACTED]		41 CODE [REDACTED]		42 VALUE CODES AMOUNT [REDACTED]		43 CODE [REDACTED]		44 VALUE CODES AMOUNT [REDACTED]																																																	
42 REV. CD. 0510										43 DESCRIPTION HOSPITAL OP CLINIC VISIT										44 HCPCS / RATE / IFFS CODE G0463 PO										45 BEAV. DATE 19		46 SERV. UNITS 1		47 TOTAL CHARGE 128.00		48 NON-COVERED CHARGES 0.00																																	
0001 PAGE 1 OF 1										CREATION DATE 19										TOTALS 128.00		0.00																																															
50 PAYER NAME MEDICARE PRIORITY HEALTH (MEDIC										51 HEALTH PLAN ID [REDACTED]										52 PRIOR PAYMENTS 0.00		53 EST. AMOUNT DUE 128.00		54 IPI 1831132133		55 OTHER [REDACTED]		56 PRIV ID [REDACTED]																																									
58 INSURED'S NAME [REDACTED]										59 P. REL. 18										60 INSURED'S UNIQUE ID [REDACTED]										61 GROUP NAME [REDACTED]		62 DISURANCE GROUP NO. 10004																																					
63 TREATMENT AUTHORIZATION CODES [REDACTED]										64 DOCUMENT CONTROL NUMBER [REDACTED]										65 EMPLOYER NAME [REDACTED]																																																	
66 DX F329										M533										F17200										R5383										R7303																													
69 ADULT DX [REDACTED]										70 PATIENT REASON DX F329										71 PPS CODE [REDACTED]										72 ECI [REDACTED]										73 [REDACTED]																													
74 PRINCIPAL PROCEDURE CODE [REDACTED]										75 OTHER PROCEDURE CODE [REDACTED]										76 OTHER PROCEDURE CODE [REDACTED]										77 ATTENDING IPI 1487069233										78 LAST MCKINNEY		79 FIRST KYLE																											
74 OTHER PROCEDURE CODE [REDACTED]										75 OTHER PROCEDURE CODE [REDACTED]										76 OTHER PROCEDURE CODE [REDACTED]										77 OPERATING IPI [REDACTED]										78 LAST [REDACTED]		79 FIRST [REDACTED]																											
80 REMARKS [REDACTED]										81 ICD-9-CM B3282N00000X										78 OTHER IPI [REDACTED]										79 LAST [REDACTED]		80 FIRST [REDACTED]																																					
78 OTHER IPI [REDACTED]										79 LAST [REDACTED]										80 OTHER IPI [REDACTED]										81 LAST [REDACTED]		82 FIRST [REDACTED]																																					



MercyHealth.com

January 22, 2018

Medicare AMI: WPS PBB
PO Box 8800
Marion, IL 62959-0800

RE: Claim For Services -- [REDACTED] I [REDACTED], Claim # [REDACTED]
Tax ID #38-2589966

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On Nov. 21, 2018, CMS published in the Federal Register a final rule with comment period reducing Medicare payment rates for clinic visit services at certain off-campus provider-based departments (excepted off-campus PBDs). As explained in comments on the proposed rule (see 83 Fed. Reg. 59,004-15), the payment reduction exceeds the scope of the Secretary's statutory authority. The payment reduction is unlawful and *ultra vires* because it violates the statutory requirement that adjustments to payment rates be budget neutral and because it ignores the statutory distinction between excepted and non-excepted off-campus PBDs. The payment rate for the claimed services should be \$86,44.

Sincerely,

Michelle Lohman, Regional Director, Physician Revenue Cycle
Mercy Health

Cc: Kristi K. Nagengast, Vice President Finance
Randall M. Smith, General Counsel

General Campus
1700 Oak Avenue
Muskegon, MI 49441
231.672.2000
800.368.4125

Hackley Campus
1700 Clinton Street
Muskegon, MI 49442
231.726.3511
800.825.4677

Lakeshore Campus
72 S. State Street
Shelby, MI 49455
231.861.2156

Mercy Campus
1500 E. Sherman Boulevard
Muskegon, MI 49441
231.672.2000
800.368.4125

MERCY HEALTH MUSKEGON 1700 CLINTON ST. MUSKEGON MI 494425502 (231) 7274444										MERCY HEALTH MUSKEGON DEPT. CH 14366 PALATINE IL 600554366 (866) 6111512										3a PAT. CMTL # b. MED. REC. #		TYPE OF BILL 0131																																																									
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MercyHealth.com

January 22, 2018

Humana Gold Plus (Medicare Replacement H)
PO Box 14601
Lexington, KY 40512-4601

RE: Claim For Services – [REDACTED], Claim # [REDACTED]
Tax ID#38-2589966

Dear Provider Services:

On Nov. 21, 2018, CMS published in the Federal Register a final rule with comment period reducing Medicare payment rates for clinic visit services at certain off-campus provider-based departments (excepted off-campus PBDs). As explained in comments on the proposed rule (see 83 Fed. Reg. 59,004-15), the payment reduction exceeds the scope of the Secretary's statutory authority. The payment reduction is unlawful and *ultra vires* because it violates the statutory requirement that adjustments to payment rates be budget neutral and because it ignores the statutory distinction between excepted and non-excepted off-campus PBDs. The payment rate for the claimed services should be \$110.21.

Sincerely,

Michelle Lohman, Regional Director, Physician Revenue Cycle
Mercy Health

Cc: Kristi K. Nagengast, Vice President Finance
Randall M. Smith, General Counsel

General Campus
1700 Oak Avenue
Muskegon, MI 49444
231.672.2000
800.368.4125

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MERCY HEALTH MUSKEGON 1700 CLINTON ST. MUSKEGON MI 494425502 (231) 7274444										MERCY HEALTH MUSKEGON DEPT CH 14366 PALATINE IL 600554366 (866) 6111512										34 PAT. CHG. # b. MED. REC. #		6 STATEMENT COVERS PERIOD FROM 19 THROUGH 19		7		TYPE OF BILL 0131																																																																																																																																																																																							
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ORDERED, that the *ultra vires* portions of the Final Rule shall **BE**, and hereby **ARE**, **VACATED**; and it is further

ORDERED, that Defendant is hereby **ENJOINED** from enforcing the *ultra vires* portions of the Final Rule; and it is further

ORDERED that CMS shall conform its payment policies and conduct to the requirements of the Medicare Act; and it is further

ORDERED that CMS shall recalculate all payments made or due pursuant to the Final Rule and provide immediate payment of any amounts improperly withheld as a result of its *ultra vires* conduct to all affected hospitals (including but not limited to the Plaintiff-Hospitals and all affected members of the AHA and AAMC).

SO ORDERED, this ___ day of _____ 2019.

The Honorable Rosemary M. Collyer
United States District Court Judge

Copies to:

Catherine E. Stetson
Susan M. Cook
HOGAN LOVELLS US LLP
555 Thirteenth Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20004

Bradley P. Humphreys
Justin Sandberg
U.S. Department of Justice
Civil Division, Federal Programs Branch
1100 L Street, NW
Washington, DC 20005