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Department of Health and Mental Hygiene**



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MEMORANDUM

TO: Working Capital Differential Participants - Hospitals and Payers

FROM: Donna Kinzer – Executive Director

DATE: December 30, 2014

RE: Current Financing Guidelines

Attached please find the guidelines for the calculation of the Current Financing advance monies required to be provided to a hospital in order to obtain the Working Capital Differential per HSCRC regulation COMAR 10.37.10.26(B) (c).

These guidelines should be utilized for all Current Financing calculations beginning January 1, 2015.

If you have any questions, you may contact Dennis N. Phelps, Associate Director-Audit & Compliance at 410-764-2605.

CURRENT FINANCING GUIDELINES, JANUARY 2015

In accordance with the revised Working Capital Differentials – Payment of Charges Regulation COMAR 10.37.10.26(B) (c), the HSCRC staff hereby sets forth the guidelines for the calculation of the current financing advance monies (the “Calculation”) required to be provided to a hospital in order to obtain the Working Capital Differential (the “Differential”).

General terms:

- 1) The Differential shall be taken only on the amounts paid by the third-party payer.
- 2) The Differential shall only be taken on the claims of the lines of business included in the Current Financing Calculation.
- 3) Adjusted Days – Significant partial payments on claims (in excess of \$500 or 50% of the original amount of the claim, whichever is the lesser) shall be treated as multiple claims, i.e., amount paid and elapsed days should be included in “a” and “b” below.
- 4) The detailed claims data on which the Calculation is based shall be made available to each hospital upon request.
- 5) By regulation, the Working Capital Advance must be adjusted within 45 days of a rate order or such other time as circumstances warrant. In the absence of a rate order, the adjustment must be made at least annually. However, no periods shall be unaccounted for, i.e., all paid claims must eventually be considered in calculating the Working Capital Advance.
- 6) Processing time shall be based on claims paid during the calculation period. When the time between transmission of a payment by the payer and receipt of the payment by the hospital is not known, three days from the payment transmission date should be utilized as the transmission time in the elapsed days calculation.
- 7) Separate calculations shall be made for inpatient claims and outpatient claims when a payer wishes to obtain the 2.25% differential, equal to paying upon admission.
- 8) It is the position of the Maryland Insurance Administration that a payer who complies with regulations governing the working capital differential program has complied with the prompt pay rule, and no interest accrues on payments past due (see attachment).

The Calculation:

Average Daily Payment Lag - Divide the number of elapsed days (number of days from discharge or date of service to receipt of payment) of all claims paid in the period by number of claims in the period. The payer’s average length of stay shall be added to the elapsed days of all inpatient claims when a payer wishes to obtain the 2.25% differential, equal to paying upon admission.

- a. Average Daily Payment - Divide total payments made in the period by number of days in the period.

- b. Revised Current Financing Balance – Multiply the Average Daily Payment Lag by the Average Daily Payment. For the 2.25% differential calculation, add the payer's average length of stay for the period.
- c. Amount of Adjustment – Subtract the Revised Current Financing Balance from the Current Financing Balance to determine amount of the adjustment.