

Hearing Aids Reimbursement Policy Change

The reimbursement policy for hearing aids codes is proposed to change in the upcoming months. Specifically, the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) has determined that the definition of “wholesale cost” will be as follows: “The wholesale cost is the ‘unit price’ or the ‘single unit price’ as identified in the manufacturer’s wholesale catalog, less rebates, discounts and not including taxes.” The amended definition is issued pursuant to *Welfare and Institution Code* (W&I Code), Section 14105.49, which allows DHCS to implement the change by provider manual or bulletin.

Comment Period

Notice is hereby given that DHCS will conduct written public proceeding, during which time any interested person or such person’s duly authorized representative may present statement, arguments or contentions relevant to the action described in this notice.

The Medi-Cal Comment Forum will open December 1, 2011. Any written statements, arguments or contentions (hereafter referred to as comments) must be received by DHCS by January 15, 2012, which is hereby designated as the close of the written comment period. The following section provides instructions for submitting written comments to DHCS. All comments, including email, mail or fax transmissions, must include the author’s name, organization or affiliation and telephone number.

Comment Instructions

To view the proposed changes in an Adobe Acrobat PDF version, visit the [Medi-Cal Public Comment Forum](#) page. Once on the Medi-Cal Public Comment Forum page, click the “Hearing Aids Reimbursement Policy Change ” link to open the PDF file. The web page’s email links are categorized as Provider, Health Plan and General Public. To submit an email comment, click the associated link and submit your comments.

Note: Email is not confidential. Use caution when entering confidential or sensitive information. Your email address will not be shared with any outside parties, but it may be used for future email notices from the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS).

Comments can also be submitted by mail or fax to:

Public Comment Forum – Hearing Aids Reimbursement Policy Change

Medi-Cal Fiscal Intermediary
Attn: Publications Department
P.O. Box 13811
Sacramento, CA 95853

Fax: (916) 617-4021 – Attn: Publications Department

For comments to be processed, the following must be included in the e-mail, fax or mail correspondence:

- Name
- Organization or affiliation
- Telephone number

Health plans are encouraged to consolidate their comments and forward them through their designated contact person.

This forum is for the sole use of submitting comments about the topics posted below. Unrelated comments or questions must be directed to one of the following phone numbers between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except holidays:

- Providers, or those interested in becoming a provider, can contact the Telephone Service Center (TSC) at 1-800-541-5555.
- Recipients can contact the Beneficiary Help Desk at (916) 636-1980.

This comment forum will end on January 15, 2012, at 5:00 p.m.