



John R. Kasich, Governor
John B. McCarthy, Director

TO: Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs) and Rural Health Clinics (RHCs)

FROM: Joseph Doodan

SUBJECT: Eligibility for the Primary Care Rate Increase

DATE: August 21, 2014

The Ohio Department of Medicaid has received several inquiries from FQHC and RHC providers regarding the eligibility of physicians to receive enhanced payment—known as the Primary Care Rate Increase (PCRI) —under Section 1202 of the Affordable Care Act.

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) addressed this issue in the Federal Register, Vol. 77, No. 215 on November 6, 2012 at <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2012-11-06/pdf/2012-26507.pdf>. Page 8 reads:

*Section 1902(a)(13)(C) of the Act requires increased payment for “primary care services furnished in CYs 2013 and 2014 by a physician with a primary specialty designation of family medicine, general internal medicine, or pediatric medicine.” The proposed rule specified that the increased payment applies only for services under the “physicians’ services” benefit at section 1905(a)(5)(A) of the Act and in regulations at § 440.50. **Increased payment would not be available for services provided by a physician delivering services under any other benefit under section 1905(a) of the Act such as, but not limited to, the Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) or Rural Health Clinics (RHC) benefits because, in those instances, payment is made on a facility basis and is not specific to the physician’s services.***

If you have questions regarding FQHCs or RHCs, please contact Melissa Little at (614) 752-3075 or Melissa.Little@Medicaid.Ohio.gov. If you have questions regarding the PCRI, please contact Ryan Spindler at (614) 752-4610 or Ryan.Spindler@medicaid.ohio.gov.