



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Larry Hogan, Governor · Boyd K. Rutherford, Lt. Governor · Dennis R. Schrader, Acting Secretary

MARYLAND MEDICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM
Nursing Home Transmittal No. 277
January 21, 2021

To: Nursing Facility Administrators

From: Marlana R. Hutchinson, Director
 Office of Long Term Services and Supports

Subject: 2020 Nursing Facility Pay-for-Performance Scores

Note: Please ensure that appropriate staff members in your organization are informed of the contents of this transmittal.

The purpose of this transmittal is to provide nursing facilities in Maryland with the 2020 pay-for-performance (P4P) results.

In accordance with legislation authorizing the Nursing Facility Quality Assessment, a portion of the revenue generated by the assessment is to be distributed to nursing facilities based on accountability measures that indicate quality care or a commitment to quality of care. The P4P model was developed in collaboration with stakeholders, and was updated in 2019 in accordance with recommendations from the Joint Chairmen's Report. The rankings are determined using the following quality measures:

- Staffing Levels and Staff Stability in Nursing Facilities (35%)
- Maryland Health Care Commission Family Satisfaction Survey (30%)
- MDS Quality Indicators (30%)
- Staff Immunizations (5%)

Per legislation, continuing care retirement communities and facilities with fewer than 45 beds are not subject to the quality assessment and, consequently, are not eligible for participation in P4P. Facilities that meet the following criteria during the one-year period ending March 31, 2020 are also excluded from P4P:

- Identified by the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services as a special focus facility;
- Denied payment for new admissions by the Department; or
- Identified by the Department as delivering substandard quality of care in accordance with 42 CFR PART 488 Subpart E §488.301.

Under the current model, the highest scoring facilities representing 40 percent of the eligible days of care, receive a quality incentive payment. In addition, facilities that do not receive a P4P

incentive payment, but whose scores have improved from the previous year, are eligible for pay-for-improvement.

Each Medicaid-enrolled nursing facility will receive an enclosure with this transmittal indicating its eligibility for P4P or pay-for-improvement. Eligible providers will receive a score on each of the quality measures, a total score, rank among eligible facilities and a projected award. Data are scored for facilities that are not eligible for P4P in order to provide performance feedback. The highest scoring facilities, representing 40 percent of the eligible days of care, will receive quality incentive payments within a payment range of \$4.30 to \$8.61 per Medicaid patient day. Pay-for-improvement amounts range from \$1.34 to \$2.69 per Medicaid patient day. These ranges will vary from year to year. In total, approximately \$13.2 million will be distributed between the P4P and pay-for-improvement programs.

Providers have 30 days from the date of this transmittal to review results. Please note that supplemental data cannot be submitted for inclusion in the P4P results. All P4P scores are based on data previously submitted to, and accepted by, the Department by each provider. If there are errors in the calculation of P4P results that require significant modifications to scoring or the award, an additional 30-day review period will be given to providers.

Comments regarding this transmittal may be directed to Ms. Lisa M. Jones at 410-767-5235 or by e-mail to lisam.jones@maryland.gov.

Enclosure
cc: Nursing Home Liaison Committee