

the ground ambulance industry, insurance and billing practices, and consumer issues such as disclosure of fees and balance billing, prior to discussing potential subcommittees and focus areas. The agenda will cover the following topics:

- No Surprises Act overview
- Overview of the ground ambulance industry
- Insurance and ground ambulance payment systems
- Ground ambulance billing practices
- Disclosure of charges to consumers, separation of charges, and cost shifting
- Impact of balance billing on consumers and current consumer protections
- Balance billing prevention, including potential legislative and regulatory options

A more detailed agenda and materials will be made available approximately 2 days before the meeting on the GAPB Advisory Committee website (listed above).

Anticipated Dates and Agendas for Future GAPB Advisory Committee Meetings

CMS expects to convene future GAPB Advisory Committee Meetings on the following dates:

- August 16, 2023
- October 31 and November 1, 2023

Agendas and registration information for these future meetings will be published in the **Federal Register** and on the GAPB Advisory Committee website closer to the anticipated meeting dates, which are subject to change.

IV. Public Participation

The May 2 and May 3, 2023 meeting will be open to the public. Attendance may be limited due to virtual meeting constraints. Interested parties are encouraged to register as far in advance of the meeting as possible. To register for the meeting, please visit: <https://www.cms.gov/regulations-guidance/advisory-committees/advisory-committee-ground-ambulance-and-patient-billing-gapb>. CMS is committed to providing equal access to this meeting for all participants and to ensuring Section 508 compliance. Closed captioning will be provided. If you need alternative formats or services because of a disability, such as sign language interpreter or other ancillary aids, please contact the person listed in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section.

V. Submitting Written Comments

Members of the public may submit written comments on subject matter

under committee deliberation prior to the May 2 and May 3, 2023 meeting via email to gapbadvisorycommittee@cms.hhs.gov. Comments must be submitted via email no later than April 21, 2023. During the virtual meeting, members of the public will have the opportunity to submit comments through the chat feature of the Zoom webinar platform. These comments will be compiled for future consideration by the Committee.

V. Viewing Documents

You may view the documents discussed in this notice at <https://www.cms.gov/regulations-guidance/advisory-committees/advisory-committee-ground-ambulance-and-patient-billing-gapb>.

The Administrator of CMS, Chiquita Brooks-LaSure, having reviewed and approved this document, authorizes Evell J. Barco Holland, who is the Federal Register Liaison, to electronically sign this document for purposes of publication in the **Federal Register**.

Dated: April 11, 2023.

Evell J. Barco Holland,

Federal Register Liaison, Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services.

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services

[CMS-1794-N]

Medicare Program; Public Meeting for New Revisions to the Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System (HCPCS) Coding: May 30–June 1, 2023

AGENCY: Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), Health and Human Services.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This notice announces the dates and times of the virtual Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System (HCPCS) public meeting to be held May 30, 2023 through June 1, 2023 to discuss our preliminary coding, Medicare benefit category, and payment determinations for new revisions to the HCPCS Level II code set for non-drug and non-biological products, as well as how to register for those meetings.

DATES: *Virtual Meeting Dates:* Tuesday, May 30, 2023, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., eastern daylight time (e.d.t.); Wednesday, May 31, 2023, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., e.d.t.; and

Thursday, June 1, 2023, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., e.d.t.

ADDRESSES: *Virtual Meeting Location:* The HCPCS public meetings will be held virtually via Zoom only.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Sundus Ashar, (410) 786-0750, Sundus.ashar1@cms.hhs.gov, or HCPCS@cms.hhs.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

On December 21, 2000, Congress enacted the Medicare, Medicaid, and the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) Benefits Improvement and Protection Act of 2000 (BIPA) (Pub. L. 106-554). Section 531(b) of BIPA mandated that the Secretary establish procedures that permit public consultation for coding and payment determinations for new durable medical equipment (DME) under Medicare Part B of title XVIII of the Social Security Act (the Act). In the November 23, 2001 **Federal Register** (66 FR 58743), we published a notice providing information regarding the establishment of the annual public meeting process for DME.

In 2020, we implemented changes to our HCPCS coding procedures, including the establishment of quarterly coding cycles for drugs and biological products and biannual coding cycles for non-drug and non-biological items and services.

In the December 28, 2021 **Federal Register** (86 FR 73860), we published a final rule that established procedures for making Medicare benefit category and payment determinations for new items and services that are DME, prosthetic devices, orthotics and prosthetics, therapeutic shoes and inserts, surgical dressings, or splints, casts, and other devices used for reductions of fractures and dislocations under Medicare Part B.

II. Public Meeting Agendas

Prior to registering to attend a virtual public meeting, all potential participants and other stakeholders are advised to review the public meeting agendas at <https://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Coding/MedHCPCSGenInfo/HCPCSPublicMeetings> which identify our preliminary coding, Medicare benefit category, and payment determinations, and the date each item will be discussed. In establishing the public meeting agendas, we may group multiple, related code applications under the same agenda item.

III. Virtual Meeting Registration

The May 30, 2023 through June 1, 2023 HCPCS public meetings will be

virtual and available for remote audio attendance and participation only via Zoom. The registration link will be posted in the Guidelines for Participation in HCPCS Public Meetings document on the CMS website at <https://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Coding/MedHCPCSGenInfo/HCPCSPublicMeetings> and in an announcement on the HCPCS General Information page at <https://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Coding/MedHCPCSGenInfo>. The same website also contains detailed information on how attendees can join the virtual public meetings using Zoom, including dial-in information. All individuals who plan to attend the virtual public meetings must register to attend. Attendees can attend more than one day of the public meeting.

A. Required Information for Registration

The following information must be provided when registering online to attend:

- Name;
- Company name (if applicable);
- Email address;
- Any special assistance requests (will be considered if the registration is submitted by 5 p.m. e.d.t., Tuesday, May 16, 2023);
- Whether the registrant is a primary speaker or a 5-minute speaker for an agenda item;
- Agenda item and Application number;
- Whether the primary speaker will use a PowerPoint presentation; and
- Whether the registrant will participate in a practice Zoom session, to be held on Thursday, May 25, 2023.

B. Speakers and Attendees

1. Primary Speakers

Each applicant that submitted a HCPCS code application that will be discussed at the virtual public meetings is permitted to designate a primary speaker. Fifteen minutes is the total time interval for a primary speaker per agenda item. The deadline for primary speakers to register and submit any supporting PowerPoint presentation is 5 p.m., e.d.t., Tuesday, May 16, 2023. We will accept PowerPoint presentations if those materials are emailed to HCPCS@cms.hhs.gov by the stated deadline. Due to the timeframe needed for the planning and coordination of the HCPCS virtual public meetings, materials that are not submitted in accordance with this deadline cannot be accommodated.

All PowerPoint presentation materials must not exceed 10 slides and should be in PowerPoint presentation format, not PDF. We will not play videos or

animations during the public meeting sessions and request the speakers to submit any relevant video or animation materials along with the written comments. We request the speakers to ensure that the presentation does not include any inappropriate content before submission.

Every primary speaker must declare at the beginning of their presentation at the meeting, as well as in their written summary, whether they have any financial involvement with the manufacturer of the item that is the subject of the HCPCS application that the primary speaker presented, or any competitors of that manufacturer with respect to the item. This includes any payment, salary, remuneration, or benefit provided to that speaker by the applicant.

2. 5-Minute Speakers

Any individual related to the public meeting agenda item, including but not limited to, an employee, stakeholder, competitor, insurer, public consumer, etc., may register and speak as a 5-minute speaker. The deadline for registering to be a 5-minute speaker is 5 p.m., e.d.t., Tuesday, May 16, 2023.

Every 5-minute speaker must declare at the beginning of their presentation at the meeting, as well as in their written summary, whether they have any financial involvement with the manufacturer of the item that is the subject of the HCPCS code application or agenda item that the 5-minute speaker presented, or any competitors of that manufacturer with respect to the item. This includes any payment, salary, remuneration, or benefit provided to that speaker by the applicant. We will not accept any other written materials, outside of the written comments, from a 5-minute speaker.

3. All Other Attendees

All individuals who plan to attend the virtual public meetings to listen and do not plan to speak, may register up to the date of that public meeting. Individuals who require special assistance must register and request special assistance services by 5 p.m. e.d.t., Tuesday, May 16, 2023.

IV. Written Comments

The primary and 5-minute speaker(s) must email a brief, written summary (one paragraph) of their comments and conclusions. Written comments from anyone, including the primary and 5-minute speaker(s), will only be accepted when emailed to HCPCS@cms.hhs.gov before 5 p.m., e.d.t. on the date of the virtual public meeting at which the

HCPCS code application that is the subject of the comments is discussed.

V. Additional Information

The HCPCS section of the CMS website also includes details regarding the public meeting process for new revisions to the HCPCS code set, including information on how to join the meeting remotely, and guidelines for an effective presentation. The HCPCS section of the CMS website also contains a document titled “Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System (HCPCS) Level II Coding Procedures,” which is a description of the HCPCS coding process, including a detailed explanation of the procedures CMS uses to make HCPCS coding determinations.

When CMS refers to HCPCS code or HCPCS coding application above, CMS may also be referring to circumstances when a HCPCS code has already been issued, but a Medicare benefit category and/or payment has not been determined. CMS is working diligently to address Medicare benefit category and payment determinations for new items and services that may be DME, prosthetic devices, orthotics and prosthetics, therapeutic shoes and inserts, surgical dressings, or splints, casts, and other devices used for reductions of fractures and dislocations under Medicare Part B. Please check the CMS website listed above for the final agenda.

VI. Collection of Information Requirements

This document does not impose information collection requirements, that is, reporting, recordkeeping or third-party disclosure requirements. Consequently, there is no need for review by the Office of Management and Budget under the authority of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*).

The Administrator of CMS, Chiquita Brooks-LaSure, having reviewed and approved this document, authorizes Evell J. Barco Holland, who is the Federal Register Liaison, to electronically sign this document for purposes of publication in the **Federal Register**.

Dated: April 11, 2023.

Evell J. Barco Holland,

Federal Register Liaison, Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services.

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