Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, HHS

§ 405.2463 What constitutes a visit.

(a) Visit—(1) General. (i) For rural health clinics, a visit is a face-to-face encounter between a clinic or center patient and a physician, physician assistant, nurse practitioner, nurse midwife, visiting nurse, clinical psychologist, or clinical social worker.

(ii) For FQHCs, a visit is—

(A) A face-to-face encounter, as described in paragraph (a)(1)(i) of this section; or

(B) A face-to-face encounter between a patient and a qualified provider of medical nutrition therapy services as defined in part 410, subpart G of this chapter; or a qualified provider of out-patient diabetes self-management training services as defined in part 410, subpart H of this chapter.

(2) Medical visit. A medical visit is a face-to-face encounter between a clinic or center patient and a physician, physician assistant, nurse practitioner, nurse midwife, or a visiting nurse; and for FQHCs only, a medical visit also includes a separately billable medical nutrition therapy visit or a diabetes outpatient self-management training visit.

(3) Other health visit. An other health visit is a face-to-face encounter between a clinic or center patient and a clinical psychologist, clinical social worker, or other health professional for mental health services.

(b) Encounters. Encounters with more than one health professional and multiple encounters with the same health professional that take place on the same day and at a single location constitute a single visit, except when one of the following conditions exist:

(1) After the first encounter, the patient suffers illness or injury requiring additional diagnosis or treatment.

(2) The patient has a medical visit and other health visit(s), as defined in paragraph (a) of this section.

(c) Payment. Medicare pays for more than one visit per day when the conditions in paragraph (b) of this section are met or a separate visit under paragraph (a)(1)(i)(B) of this section is made.

§ 405.2464 All-inclusive rate.

(a) Determination of rate. (1) An all-inclusive rate is determined by the intermediary at the beginning of the reporting period.

(2) The rate is determined by dividing the estimated total allowable costs by estimated total visits for rural health clinic or Federally qualified health center services.

(3) The rate determination is subject to any tests of reasonableness that may be established in accordance with this subpart.

(b) Adjustment of rate. (1) The intermediary, during each reporting period, periodically reviews the rate to assure that payments approximate actual allowable costs and visits for rural health clinic or Federally qualified health center services and adjusts the rate if:

(i) There is a significant change in the utilization of clinic or center services;

(ii) Actual allowable costs vary materially from the clinic or center’s allowable costs; or

(iii) Other circumstances arise which warrant an adjustment.

(2) The clinic or center may request the intermediary to review the rate to determine whether adjustment is required.

§ 405.2466 Annual reconciliation.

(a) General. Payments made to a rural health clinic or a Federally qualified health center during a reporting period are subject to reconciliation to assure that those payments do not exceed or fall short of the allowable costs attributable to covered services furnished to Medicare beneficiaries during that period.

(b) Calculation of reconciliation. (1) The total reimbursement amount due the clinic or center for covered services furnished to Medicare beneficiaries is based on the report specified in §405.2470(c)(2) and is calculated by the intermediary as follows:

(i) The average cost per visit is calculated by dividing the total allowable cost incurred for the reporting period