

## NOTICES OF PUBLIC INFORMATION

Notices of Public Information contain corrections that agencies wish to make to their notices of rulemaking; miscellaneous rule-making information that does not fit into any other category of notice; and other types of information required by statute to be published in the *Register*. Because of the variety of material that is contained in a Notice of Public Information, the Office of the Secretary of State has not established a specific format for these notices.

### NOTICE OF PUBLIC INFORMATION

[M12-320]

- 1. Name of the Agency:** Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System (AHCCCS)  
**2. The Subject of this Notice:** AHCCCS Proposed Reimbursement for Ambulatory Surgical Centers for the Time Period of October 1, 2012 through September 30, 2013

**3. The Public Information relating to the Subject:**

The purpose of this Notice is to advise the public that AHCCCS is proposing to modify the reimbursement methodology for Ambulatory Surgical Centers (ASCs) for the time period of October 1, 2012 through September 30, 2013. This Notice describes the reimbursement proposed for ASCs during this time period.

In summary, the proposed changes to ASC reimbursement are designed to provide payment to these providers consistent with levels of other non-hospital entities relative to their Medicare fee schedules. Consistent with federal law, various factors were considered in developing the proposed modifications, including but not limited to, efficiency, economy, quality of care, and access to care.

The proposed changes to ASC reimbursement are based on the July 2012 Medicare ASC fee schedule rates where AHCCCS will apply the geographic adjustment for Arizona and the APC Offset Schedule where applicable. The AHCCCS rates will be calculated as follows: 100% of the APC Offset Schedule device cost (if any) plus 95% of the APC Offset Schedule for drug costs (if any) plus 85.7375% of the remaining Medicare ASC AZ rate.

Where the APC Offset Schedule does not apply, AHCCCS rates will be calculated as follows: 95% of the Medicare ASC rate for separately billable drug codes and 85.7375% of the Medicare ASC AZ rate for all other procedure codes.

It is anticipated that the proposed changes to ASC reimbursement will increase payments to ASCs by 8.3% during the October 1, 2012 through September 30, 2013 time period. This increase is estimated to result in an aggregate increase in total expenditures to ASCs in the amount of \$2,855,000 which would be comprised of approximately \$955,000 in State funds. AHCCCS anticipates that this increase in costs will be offset by a shift in utilization from higher cost outpatient facilities to ASCs.

**4. A list of previous notices published in the Arizona Administrative Register relating to the notice of public information:**

None

**5. Public comments relating to the notice of public information:**

Written comments to this Notice of Public Information must be received no later than 5:00 p.m. on September 24, 2012. Please send written comments to:

Name: Michael Veit, Contracts and Purchasing Administrator

Address: Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System  
701 E. Jefferson St.  
Phoenix, AZ 85034

E-mail: michael.veit@azahcccs.gov

**6. Location where copies of the proposed changes are available for review:**

Information regarding the proposed ASC reimbursement may be found on the web site maintained by AHCCCS located at: [www.azahcccs.gov](http://www.azahcccs.gov). Many public libraries offer access to the internet. In addition the information can be obtained at the:

AHCCCS Administration  
701 E. Jefferson St.  
Phoenix, AZ 85034