

## DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES, DIVISION OF MEDICAL SERVICES

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**SUBJECT:** Arkansas Medicaid Procedure Code Linking Table Project

**DESCRIPTION:**

Statement of Necessity

The purpose of the rule is to bring all procedure codes currently contained in designated Arkansas Medicaid Provider Manuals up to date. The codes will be replaced with hyperlinks to a consistently maintained list of codes.

Procedure codes and the related billing requirements must be added, deleted, or modified often and under several circumstances. For example, procedure code conversions and updates are issued regularly by the Physician's Current Procedural Terminology (CPT) and Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System (HCPCS) oversight organizations.

The procedure codes are being removed from the manual as codes are not Rules (see Ark. Code Ann. §25-15-202(9)(B)(iv)). The change will allow for contemporaneous and efficient updates when national procedure codes and billing criteria change. (In future updates, any necessary corrections to language will be made.)

The proposed revision is necessary to:

- 1) Bring components of the Division of Medical Services (DMS) payment policy processes up to date with the fully-implemented interChange (iC) system (iC replaced MMIS (Medicaid Management Information System)); and
- 2) Implement changes to the procedure code update process that can be leveraged to ensure timely compliance with all mandatory updates.

Rule Summary

Effective January 1, 2022, procedure codes are being removed from the text of the following Provider Manuals: Adult Behavioral Health, ARKids First-B, Certified Nurse Midwife, Child Health Services/EPSTD, Children's Services Targeted Case Management, Chiropractic, Dental, Federally-Qualified Health Center, Hearing, Home Health, Hospital, Hyperalimentation, Nurse Practitioner, Outpatient Behavioral Health, Physician, Podiatrist, Portable X-Ray, Private Duty Nursing, Prosthetics, Rehabilitative Hospital, Rural Health Clinic, School-Based Mental Health, Transportation, Ventilator Equipment, and Vision.

Procedure codes in these manuals are being replaced with a hyperlink to a Procedure Code Linking Table or to another subsection of the manual that contains a hyperlink to a Table.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** A public hearing was held on this rule on October 21, 2021. The public comment period expired November 8, 2021. The agency indicated that it received no public comments.

The proposed effective date is January 1, 2022.

**FINANCIAL IMPACT:** The agency indicated that this rule does not have a financial impact.

**LEGAL AUTHORIZATION:** The Department of Human Services has the responsibility to administer assigned forms of public assistance and is specifically authorized to maintain an indigent medical care program (Arkansas Medicaid). *See* Ark. Code Ann. §§ 20-76-201(1), 20-77-107(a)(1). The Department has the authority to make rules that are necessary or desirable to carry out its public assistance duties. Ark. Code Ann. § 20-76-201(12). The Department and its divisions also have the authority to promulgate rules as necessary to conform their programs to federal law and receive federal funding. Ark. Code Ann. § 25-10-129(b).

“A medical code within the Arkansas Medicaid Program that is issued by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services” is not considered a “rule” under the Arkansas Administrative Procedure Act. *See* Ark. Code Ann. § 25-15-202(9)(B)(iv).

**QUESTIONNAIRE FOR FILING PROPOSED RULES AND REGULATIONS  
WITH THE ARKANSAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL**

DEPARTMENT/AGENCY Department of Human Services  
DIVISION Division of Medical Services  
DIVISION DIRECTOR Elizabeth Pitman  
CONTACT PERSON Mac Golden  
ADDRESS P. O. Box 1437, Slot S295 Little Rock, AR 72203-1437  
Mac.E.Golden  
PHONE NO. 501-320-6383 FAX NO. 501-404-4619 E-MAIL @dhs.arkansas.gov  
NAME OF PRESENTER AT COMMITTEE MEETING Elizabeth Pitman  
PRESENTER E-MAIL Elizabeth.Pitman@dhs.arkansas.gov

**INSTRUCTIONS**

- A. Please make copies of this form for future use.
- B. Please answer each question **completely** using layman terms. You may use additional sheets, if necessary.
- C. If you have a method of indexing your rules, please give the proposed citation after "Short Title of this Rule" below.
- D. Submit two (2) copies of this questionnaire and financial impact statement attached to the front of two (2) copies of the proposed rule and required documents. Mail or deliver to:

Jessica C. Sutton  
Administrative Rules Review Section  
Arkansas Legislative Council  
Bureau of Legislative Research  
One Capitol Mall, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Little Rock, AR 72201

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1. What is the short title of this rule? Arkansas Medicaid Procedure Code Linking Table Project
2. What is the subject of the proposed rule? See attached
3. Is this rule required to comply with a federal statute, rule, or regulation? Yes  No   
If yes, please provide the federal rule, regulation, and/or statute citation. \_\_\_\_\_
4. Was this rule filed under the emergency provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act?  
Yes  No   
If yes, what is the effective date of the emergency rule? \_\_\_\_\_  
When does the emergency rule expire? \_\_\_\_\_  
Will this emergency rule be promulgated under the permanent provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act?

Yes  No

5. Is this a new rule? Yes  No   
If yes, please provide a brief summary explaining the regulation. \_\_\_\_\_

Does this repeal an existing rule? Yes  No   
If yes, a copy of the repealed rule is to be included with your completed questionnaire. If it is being replaced with a new rule, please provide a summary of the rule giving an explanation of what the rule does. \_\_\_\_\_

Is this an amendment to an existing rule? Yes  No   
If yes, please attach a mark-up showing the changes in the existing rule and a summary of the substantive changes. **Note: The summary should explain what the amendment does, and the mark-up copy should be clearly labeled "mark-up."**

See attached.

6. Cite the state law that grants the authority for this proposed rule? If codified, please give the Arkansas Code citation.

Arkansas Code §§ 20-76-201, 20-77-107, 25-10-129, and 25-15-202(9)(B)(iv)

7. What is the purpose of this proposed rule? Why is it necessary?

See Attached.

8. Please provide the address where this rule is publicly accessible in electronic form via the Internet as required by Arkansas Code § 25-19-108(b).

<https://humanservices.arkansas.gov/do-business-with-dhs/proposed-rules/>

9. Will a public hearing be held on this proposed rule? Yes  No   
If yes, please complete the following:

Date: October 21, 2021

Time: 11:00 a.m.

Zoom

Place: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85885137416>

10. When does the public comment period expire for permanent promulgation? (Must provide a date.)

November 8, 2021

11. What is the proposed effective date of this proposed rule? (Must provide a date.)

January 1, 2022

12. Please provide a copy of the notice required under Ark. Code Ann. § 25-15-204(a), and proof of the publication of said notice. See Attached.

13. Please provide proof of filing the rule with the Secretary of State as required pursuant to Ark. Code Ann. § 25-15-204(e). See Attached.

14. Please give the names of persons, groups, or organizations that you expect to comment on these rules?  
Please provide their position (for or against) if known. Unknown

**FINANCIAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

**PLEASE ANSWER ALL QUESTIONS COMPLETELY**

**DEPARTMENT** Department of Human Services

**DIVISION** Division of Medical Services

**PERSON COMPLETING THIS STATEMENT** Jason Callan

**TELEPHONE** 501-320-6540      **FAX** 501-682-8155      **EMAIL:** Jason.callan@dhs.arkansas.gov

To comply with Ark. Code Ann. § 25-15-204(e), please complete the following Financial Impact Statement and file two copies with the questionnaire and proposed rules.

**SHORT TITLE OF THIS RULE** Arkansas Medicaid Procedure Code Linking Table Project

1. Does this proposed, amended, or repealed rule have a financial impact?      Yes       No
  
2. Is the rule based on the best reasonably obtainable scientific, technical, economic, or other evidence and information available concerning the need for, consequences of, and alternatives to the rule?      Yes       No
  
3. In consideration of the alternatives to this rule, was this rule determined by the agency to be the least costly rule considered?      Yes       No

If an agency is proposing a more costly rule, please state the following:

- (a) How the additional benefits of the more costly rule justify its additional cost;  
\_\_\_\_\_
  
- (b) The reason for adoption of the more costly rule;  
\_\_\_\_\_
  
- (c) Whether the more costly rule is based on the interests of public health, safety, or welfare, and if so, please explain; and;  
\_\_\_\_\_
  
- (d) Whether the reason is within the scope of the agency's statutory authority; and if so, please explain.  
\_\_\_\_\_

4. If the purpose of this rule is to implement a federal rule or regulation, please state the following:

- (a) What is the cost to implement the federal rule or regulation?

**Current Fiscal Year**

General Revenue \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Federal Funds \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Cash Funds \_\_\_\_\_  
Special Revenue \_\_\_\_\_  
Other (Identify) \_\_\_\_\_

**Next Fiscal Year**

General Revenue \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Federal Funds \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Cash Funds \_\_\_\_\_  
Special Revenue \_\_\_\_\_  
Other (Identify) \_\_\_\_\_

Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

(b) What is the additional cost of the state rule?

**Current Fiscal Year**

**Next Fiscal Year**

General Revenue \$ 0  
 Federal Funds \$ 0  
 Cash Funds \_\_\_\_\_  
 Special Revenue \_\_\_\_\_  
 Other (Identify) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Total \$ 0

General Revenue \$0  
 Federal Funds \$0  
 Cash Funds \_\_\_\_\_  
 Special Revenue \_\_\_\_\_  
 Other (Identify) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Total \$ 0

5. What is the total estimated cost by fiscal year to any private individual, entity and business subject to the proposed, amended, or repealed rule? Identify the entity(ies) subject to the proposed rule and explain how they are affected.

**Current Fiscal Year**

**Next Fiscal Year**

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

6. What is the total estimated cost by fiscal year to state, county, and municipal government to implement this rule? Is this the cost of the program or grant? Please explain how the government is affected.

**Current Fiscal Year**

**Next Fiscal Year**

\$ 0 \_\_\_\_\_

\$ 0 \_\_\_\_\_

7. With respect to the agency's answers to Questions #5 and #6 above, is there a new or increased cost or obligation of at least one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) per year to a private individual, private entity, private business, state government, county government, municipal government, or to two (2) or more of those entities combined?

Yes  No

If YES, the agency is required by Ark. Code Ann. § 25-15-204(e)(4) to file written findings at the time of filing the financial impact statement. The written findings shall be filed simultaneously with the financial impact statement and shall include, without limitation, the following:

- (1) a statement of the rule's basis and purpose;
- (2) the problem the agency seeks to address with the proposed rule, including a statement of whether a rule is required by statute;
- (3) a description of the factual evidence that:
  - (a) justifies the agency's need for the proposed rule; and

- (b) describes how the benefits of the rule meet the relevant statutory objectives and justify the rule's costs;
- (4) a list of less costly alternatives to the proposed rule and the reasons why the alternatives do not adequately address the problem to be solved by the proposed rule;
- (5) a list of alternatives to the proposed rule that were suggested as a result of public comment and the reasons why the alternatives do not adequately address the problem to be solved by the proposed rule;
- (6) a statement of whether existing rules have created or contributed to the problem the agency seeks to address with the proposed rule and, if existing rules have created or contributed to the problem, an explanation of why amendment or repeal of the rule creating or contributing to the problem is not a sufficient response; and
- (7) an agency plan for review of the rule no less than every ten (10) years to determine whether, based upon the evidence, there remains a need for the rule including, without limitation, whether:
  - (a) the rule is achieving the statutory objectives;
  - (b) the benefits of the rule continue to justify its costs; and
  - (c) the rule can be amended or repealed to reduce costs while continuing to achieve the statutory objectives.



## **Statement of Necessity and Rule Summary**

### **Arkansas Medicaid Procedure Code Linking Table Project (Rule-141)**

#### **Statement of Necessity**

The purpose of the rule is to bring all procedure codes currently contained in designated Arkansas Medicaid Provider Manuals up to date. The codes will be replaced with hyperlinks to a consistently maintained list of codes.

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The proposed revision is necessary to:

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## NOTICE OF RULE MAKING

The Director of the Division of Medical Services of the Department of Human Services announces for a public comment period of thirty (30) calendar days a notice of rulemaking for the following proposed rule under one or more of the following chapters, subchapters, or sections of the Arkansas Code: §§ 20-76-201, 20-77-107, and 25-10-129.

### **Effective January 1, 2022:**

The Director of the Division of Medical Services (DMS) is removing procedure codes from the Arkansas Medicaid Provider Manuals as codes are not Rules (see Arkansas Code 25-15-202(9)(B)(iv)). The revision will also bring all components of the DMS payment policy up to date now that the new interChange system is fully implemented, replacing the Medicaid Management Information System. The revision also allows DMS to make updates in a timely manner when the national procedure codes and billing criteria change.

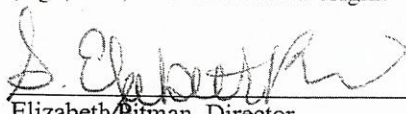
Rate codes are removed from the text of the following manuals: Adult Behavioral Health, ARKids First-B, Certified Nurse Midwife, Child Health Services/EPSTD, Children's Services Targeted Case Management, Chiropractic, Dental, Federally-Qualified Health Center, Hearing, Home Health, Hospital, Hyperalimentation, Nurse Practitioner, Outpatient Behavioral Health, Physician, Podiatrist, Portable X-Ray, Private Duty Nursing, Prosthetics, Rehabilitative Hospital, Rural Health Clinic, School-Based Mental Health, Transportation, Ventilator Equipment, and Vision. The procedure codes are being replaced with hyperlinks directing users to the Procedure Code Linking Table.

The proposed rule is available for review at the Department of Human Services (DHS) Office of Rules Promulgation, 2nd floor Donaghey Plaza South Building, 7th and Main Streets, P. O. Box 1437, Slot S295, Little Rock, Arkansas 72203-1437. You may also access and download the proposed rule at <https://humanservices.arkansas.gov/do-business-with-dhs/proposed-rules/>. Public comments must be submitted in writing at the above address or at the following email address: [ORP@dhs.arkansas.gov](mailto:ORP@dhs.arkansas.gov). All public comments must be received by DHS no later than **November 8, 2021**. Please note that public comments submitted in response to this notice are considered public documents. A public comment, including the commenter's name and any personal information contained within the public comment, will be made publicly available and may be seen by various people.

A public hearing by remote access only through a Zoom webinar will be held on **October 21, 2021 at 11:00 a.m.** and public comments may be submitted at the hearing. Individuals can access this public hearing at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85885137416>. The webinar ID is 85885137416. If you would like the electronic link, "one-tap" mobile information, listening only dial-in phone numbers, or international phone numbers, please contact ORP at [ORP@dhs.arkansas.gov](mailto:ORP@dhs.arkansas.gov).

If you need this material in a different format, such as large print, contact the Office of Rules Promulgation at 501-396-6428.

The Arkansas Department of Human Services is in compliance with Titles VI and VII of the Civil Rights Act and is operated, managed and delivers services without regard to religion, disability, political affiliation, veteran status, age, race, color or national origin. 4502035775

  
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Elizabeth Pitman, Director  
Division of Medical Services