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August 19, 2024 PIL 24-02

To: Acute Psychiatric Hospitals General Acute Care Hospitals Special Hospitals

Subject: Hospital Policy Submissions and Revisions Viewable to the Public

On January 1, 2024, the California Department of Health Care Access and Information (Department) began receiving hospital policy submissions required by the Hospital Fair Pricing Act (Health and Safety Code section 127400 et seq.) and the related regulations. As required by Title 22 of the California Code of Regulations section 96051.6(c)(3), each policy should be uploaded as a clean version for posting on the Department's website and a marked-up version which reflects any changes since the policy was last submitted to the Department using underline to identify new content and strikethrough to identify removed content. If a submission is found to be out of compliance, the submitted policy will be rejected to allow for the hospital to submit revisions, including a clean version and a marked-up version, within 30-days of the rejection date.

Please be advised that the clean version of the initial submission and all subsequent revisions is immediately available to the public on the Department's Hospital Fair Pricing Policy Lookup page.

The revised version of the policies will immediately replace the previous versions; therefore, please review the clean versions of your policies and policy related documents prior to submission to remove any notes, highlights, and mark-ups that are not meant for the public to see.

As required by Title 22 of the California Code of Regulations section 96051.6(a)(1), each policy submitted shall list an effective date on the policy that reflects the date the policy will go into effect at the hospital. For revised policy submissions, please do not list "TBD" as an effective date. Policies submitted must be the hospital's current policies in use at time of submission.

Please submit any questions through the comments section of the hospital policy report page in the online policy submission portal (<u>HDC</u>). For instructions on this process, see the <u>How to add/view comments</u> section of HDC User Guide.

Sincerely,

Hospital Fair Billing Program Legal Division



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