



RICHARD FIGUEROA  
ACTING DIRECTOR

State of California—Health and Human Services Agency  
Department of Health Care Services



GAVIN NEWSOM  
GOVERNOR

December 31, 2019

Mr. Richard C. Allen, Director  
Western Regional Operations Group  
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services  
San Francisco Regional Office  
90 Seventh Street, Suite 5-300 (5W)  
San Francisco, CA 94103-6707

STATE PLAN AMENDMENT 19-0048: PROPOSITION 56 PAYMENTS FOR TRAUMA SCREENINGS

Dear Mr. Allen:

The Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) is submitting State Plan Amendment (SPA) 19-0048 for your review and approval. This SPA proposes to authorize time-limited payments to support trauma screenings for children and adults, effective January 1, 2020, through December 31, 2021.

In 2016, California voters approved the California Healthcare, Research and Prevention Tobacco Tax Act (commonly known as Proposition 56 (Prop. 56) to increase the excise tax rate on cigarettes and tobacco products. Under Prop. 56, a specified portion of the tobacco tax revenue is allocated to DHCS for use as the nonfederal share of health care expenditures in accordance with the annual state budget process. The Budget Act of 2019 appropriated Prop. 56 funds for specified DHCS health care expenditures during state fiscal year 2019-20. DHCS will allocate up to \$40.8 million in total funds for trauma screening payments through December 31, 2021. Children under 21 years of age may receive periodic rescreening as determined appropriate and medically necessary, but not more than once per year, per provider, and for adults up to age 65, no more than one screening per lifetime, per provider.

Screenings will be billed and reimbursed to providers in both the managed care and fee-for-service (FFS) delivery systems. The payment rate for trauma screenings is fixed at the amount listed in the chart on page 2, corresponding to an applicable Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System (HCPCS) code. Federally Qualified Health Centers, Rural Health Clinics, and Indian Services Memorandum of Agreement 638 clinics will be able to receive these incentive payments in addition to their all-inclusive, per-visit reimbursement. These payments will be paid using the codes in the below

Mr. Richard C. Allen  
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chart in addition to the amounts paid for the office visit that accompanies the screening in FFS scenarios or capitation paid by Medi-Cal managed care health plans.

HCPCS Code	Amount
G9919 – High-risk, patient score of 4 or greater	\$29.00
G9920 – Lower-risk, patient score of 0 – 3	\$29.00

DHCS informally submitted SPA 19-0048 to CMS for review on October 14, 2019, and continues to work with CMS to respond to informal questions received on November 7, and December 11, 2019, respectively.

DHCS published the public notice for SPA 19-0048 on August 16, 2019, and the tribal notice on August 26, 2019. DHCS held the tribal webinar on August 29, 2019. As of December 17, 2019, DHCS received two comments, and will post formal responses on the webpage for Notices of Proposed Changes to Medi-Cal Program at [https://www.dhcs.ca.gov/services/rural/Pages/Tribal\\_Notifications.aspx](https://www.dhcs.ca.gov/services/rural/Pages/Tribal_Notifications.aspx).

If you have any questions regarding SPA 19-0048, please contact Cynthia Smiley, Chief, Benefits Division, by telephone at (916) 345-8240, or by email at [Cynthia.Smiley@dhcs.ca.gov](mailto:Cynthia.Smiley@dhcs.ca.gov).

Sincerely,

  
Mari Canwell  
Chief Deputy Director  
Health Care Programs  
State Medicaid Director

Enclosures

cc: Cynthia Nanes  
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Services  
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**TRANSMITTAL AND NOTICE OF APPROVAL OF  
STATE PLAN MATERIAL  
FOR: CENTERS FOR MEDICARE & MEDICAID SERVICES**

1. TRANSMITTAL NUMBER

1 9 — 0 0 48

2. STATE

California

3. PROGRAM IDENTIFICATION:

Title XIX of the Social Security Act (Medicaid)

TO: REGIONAL ADMINISTRATOR  
CENTERS FOR MEDICARE & MEDICAID SERVICES  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

4. PROPOSED EFFECTIVE DATE

January 1, 2020

5. TYPE OF PLAN MATERIAL (*Check One*)

NEW STATE PLAN

AMENDMENT TO BE CONSIDERED AS NEW PLAN

AMENDMENT

COMPLETE BLOCKS 6 THRU 10 IF THIS IS AN AMENDMENT (*Separate transmittal for each amendment*)

6. FEDERAL STATUTE/REGULATION CITATION

42 CFR 447, Subpart B

7. FEDERAL BUDGET IMPACT

a. FFY 2020 \$ 4,019,108

b. FFY 2021 \$ 5,454,810

8. PAGE NUMBER OF THE PLAN SECTION OR ATTACHMENT

Supplement 32 to Attachment 4.19-B, page 1

9. PAGE NUMBER OF THE SUPERSEDED PLAN SECTION  
OR ATTACHMENT (*If Applicable*)

None

10. SUBJECT OF AMENDMENT

Proposes to authorize a time-limited payment for trauma screenings using Proposition 56 funds, effective January 1, 2020, through December 31, 2021.

11. GOVERNOR'S REVIEW (*Check One*)

GOVERNOR'S OFFICE REPORTED NO COMMENT

OTHER, AS SPECIFIED

COMMENTS OF GOVERNOR'S OFFICE ENCLOSED

NO REPLY RECEIVED WITHIN 45 DAYS OF SUBMITTAL

12. SIGNATURE OF STATE AGENCY OFFICIAL

13. TYPED NAME

Mari Cantwell

14. TITLE

State Medicaid Director

15. DATE SUBMITTED

December 31, 2019

16. RETURN TO

Department of Health Care Services

Attn: Director's Office

P.O. Box 997413, MS 0000

Sacramento, CA 95899-7413

**FOR REGIONAL OFFICE USE ONLY**

17. DATE RECEIVED

18. DATE APPROVED

**PLAN APPROVED - ONE COPY ATTACHED**

19. EFFECTIVE DATE OF APPROVED MATERIAL

20. SIGNATURE OF REGIONAL OFFICIAL

21. TYPED NAME

22. TITLE

23. REMARKS

For Box 11 "Other, As Specified," Please note: The Governor's Office does not wish to review the State Plan Amendment.

STATE PLAN UNDER TITLE XIX OF THE SOCIAL SECURITY ACT  
STATE: CALIFORNIA

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**PAYMENTS FOR TRAUMA SCREENINGS**

This program provides payments for trauma screenings provided to Medi-Cal beneficiaries. The payments for trauma screenings will be provided at a fixed rate for services rendered between the periods listed below. The rate will remain unchanged through this amendment.

Proposition 56 payments beginning in State Fiscal Year 2019-20 will be made available for adjudicated claims once any necessary system edits to accommodate such payments have been implemented.

**Reimbursement Methodology** – General Provisions for services provided for the period January 1, 2020 - December 31, 2021

Trauma screenings will be billed and reimbursed in both the managed care and fee-for-service (FFS) delivery systems. The payment rate will be fixed at the amount listed in the chart below for each eligible trauma screening listed by the Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System (HCPCS) code. These payments will be in addition to the amounts paid for the office visit that accompanies the screening. As an incentive for Federally Qualified Health Centers, Rural Health Clinics, and Indian Health Services Memorandum of Agreement 638 clinics, these payments will be available as a FFS rate and will not impact their reconciliation of the prospective payment system or their all-inclusive rates.

Children under 21 years of age may receive periodic rescreening as determined appropriate and medically necessary, but not more than once per year, per provider, and for adults up to age 65, no more than one screening per lifetime, per provider.

HCPCS Codes	Amount
G9919 – positive screening with patient score of 4 or greater	\$29.00
G9920 – negative screening with patient score of 0-3	\$29.00

TN 19-0048  
Supersedes  
TN: None

Approval Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Effective Date: January 1, 2020