



**ALABAMA MEDICAID AGENCY
CLINICS AND MENTAL HEALTH PROGRAMS**

**Joint Alabama-Georgia Rural Health Clinic
Conference**

RURAL HEALTH CLINICS (GENERAL INFORMATION)

- Rural health clinics are defined as clinics located in a rural area designated by the Bureau of Census as non-urbanized and medically underserved.
- Rural health clinics are designed to meet the needs of those recipients who might otherwise be unable to access medical attention.



RURAL HEALTH CLINICS (GENERAL INFORMATION CONT'D)

- RHC services are reimbursed by an all-inclusive encounter rate (all services provided for the recipient for that visit is included in the rate).
 - * *For IRHC's the only exception to all-inclusive encounters is claims for laboratory services and for the technical component for EKG's and radiology services.*
 - * *For PBRHC's if a recipient only has lab or x-rays, this will constitute an encounter.*
- Encounters are face-to-face contacts between a patient and a health professional for medically necessary services.



RURAL HEALTH CLINICS (GENERAL INFORMATION CONT'D)

- RHC's are limited to one visit per day per recipient with the exception of dental. A dental visit can be billed on the same date as any other encounter, and both will be paid.
- Effective 5/1/2012, Rural Health Centers may submit claims for Mirena®, Paragard®, and Implanon® fee-for-service outside the encounter rate.



INDEPENDENT RURAL HEALTH CLINICS

- IRHC's are clinics located in a rural area and are physician owned.
- Physicians affiliated with rural health clinics are enrolled with a NPI, which links them to the clinic.
- All other personnel affiliated with the rural health clinic, such as physician assistants or nurse practitioners, bill using the clinic's NPI, and are not assigned individual NPIs.
- IRHC clinic visits , outpatient and inpatient visits are subject to the same routine benefit limitations as physicians.
- Additional information is in Chapter 36 of the Provider Manual and Chapter 8 of the Administrative Code.



PROVIDER BASED RURAL HEALTH CLINICS

- Provider based rural health clinics are clinics located in a rural area that are an integral part of hospital, home health agency, or nursing facility.
- Physicians affiliated with rural health clinics are enrolled with their own NPI, which links them to the clinic.
- All other personnel affiliated with the rural health clinic, such as physician assistants or nurse practitioners, bill using the clinic NPI, and are not assigned individual NPIs.
- PBRHC clinic visits , outpatient and inpatient visits are subject to the same routine benefit limitations as physicians.
- Additional information is in Chapter 32 of the Provider Manual and Chapters 59 and 60 of the Administrative Code.



CONTACT INFORMATION

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