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North Carolina Industrial Commission

January 30, 2013

TO: Insurance Carriers, Self-Insured Groups & Administrators, Managed Care Organizations
FROM: Medical Fees Section, North Carolina Industrial Commission
RE: *Updates to the Hospital Fee Schedule Effective February 1, 2013*

OFFICIAL NOTICE

This Notice is to inform your organization that the North Carolina Industrial Commission has updated the Hospital and Ambulatory Surgery Fee Schedules to incorporate recent revisions to the Fees for Medical Compensation rule, 04 NCAC 10J .0101. The following change has been made:

- **Hospitals and ambulatory surgery centers will adjust their total billed charge on each claim to reflect a charge neutralization discount. The discount neutralizes the facility's applicable overall charge increase occurring on or after July 1, 2012. The total adjusted charge will be shown in either the FL80 remarks field on the UB-04 form or on a separate attachment on the facility's letterhead.**

The effective date of this change is February 1, 2013. Payments made to hospitals or ambulatory surgery centers for dates of service on and after February 1, 2013 are subject to the revised maximum allowable amounts. The North Carolina Workers' Compensation Act requires each health care provider to be reimbursed the amount specified under the fee schedule unless the provider has agreed under contract to accept a different amount or reimbursement methodology. See N.C. Gen. Stat. 97-26(c).

Please ensure your organization's systems and internal processes account for the total adjusted charge in making payments to hospitals and ambulatory surgery centers to ensure compliance with 04 NCAC 10J .0101 and N.C. Gen. Stat. 97-26. Payments will continue to be made at existing rates on the total adjusted charge. The North Carolina Hospital Association (NCHA) has provided guidance on hospital and ambulatory surgery fee schedule billing for workers' compensation. More detailed instructions for facilities on calculating the required charge adjustment can be found at: <https://www.ncha.org/billing-guidance>.

Additional changes affecting hospitals and ambulatory surgery center fees under 04 NCAC 10J .0101 take effect for services rendered on or after April 1, 2013, and additional guidance will be provided prior to that date.