

State of California
Department of Industrial Relations
DIVISION OF WORKERS' COMPENSATION



**Order of the Administrative Director of the
Division of Workers' Compensation
Official Medical Fee Schedule – Ambulance Fee Schedule
Revised 2016 Public Use File, Zip Code File, and Inflation Factor
for Services Rendered on or after January 15, 2016**

Pursuant to Labor Code section 5307.1(g), the Administrative Director of the Division of Workers' Compensation orders that Title 8, California Code of Regulations, section 9789.70, pertaining to Ambulance Services in the Official Medical Fee Schedule, is adjusted to conform to the 2016 changes to the Medicare payment system.

Medicare Data Source and Incorporation by Reference

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) revised the Ambulance Fee Schedule in May 2015 to incorporate changes made by the Medicare Access and CHIP Reauthorization Act (MACRA) of 2015.

Section 203 of the MACRA of 2015 extends the provision increasing Ambulance Fee Schedule amounts by 2% for services originating in urban areas and by 3% for services originating in rural areas (as defined by the ZIP Code of the point of pickup). Section 203 also extends the provision relating to payment for ground ambulance services that increased the base rate for transports originating in an area that is within the lowest 25th percentile of all rural areas arrayed by population density (known as the "super rural" bonus). These provisions will expire on December 31, 2017.

Effective for services rendered on or after January 15, 2016, the maximum reasonable fees for Ambulance Fee Schedule shall not exceed 120% of the applicable California fees set forth in the calendar year 2016 ambulance services, contained in the electronic Public Use file.

The Administrative Director incorporates by reference the following Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) files from the CMS website:

The CY 2016 Public Use File, as revised December 22, 2015, which includes the following electronic files:

1. ambfspuf_2016_.xlsx
2. PUF2016_index_.pdf
3. Ambo_PUF_CY2016.pdf
4. ambfspuf_2016.txt

The CMS Zip Code Files as revised November 17, 2015, which includes the following electronic files:

1. ZIP5_JAN16.txt
2. ZIP5_JAN16.xlsx
3. ZIP5lyout.txt
4. ZIP9_JAN16.txt
5. ZIP9lyout.txt

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) announced the CY 2016 Ambulance Inflation Factor in CMS Manual System Transmittal No. 3380, Change Request 9412 to Pub. 100-04.

CMS Manual System Transmittal No. 3380 is published on the website of the Division of Workers' Compensation at: <http://www.dir.ca.gov/DWC/OMFS9904.htm>

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services has determined that the Ambulance Inflation Factor for Calendar Year 2016 is negative 0.40 percent (-0.40%). This figure results from the subtraction of the 10-year moving average of changes in annual economy-wide private non-farm business multi-factor productivity (MFP) from the consumer price index for all urban consumers (CPI-U).

For services provided on or after January 15, 2016, the Ambulance Inflation Factor is included in the ambulance service fees in the CY 2016 Ambulance Fee Schedule Public Use File.

The documents incorporated by reference are available on the Internet at the website of [the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services](http://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Medicare-Fee-for-Service-Payment/AmbulanceFeeSchedule/afspuf.html) at: <http://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Medicare-Fee-for-Service-Payment/AmbulanceFeeSchedule/afspuf.html> and are published on the website of the Division of Workers' Compensation at: <http://www.dir.ca.gov/DWC/OMFS9904.htm>

This Order shall be published on the website of the Division of Workers' Compensation: <http://www.dir.ca.gov/DWC/OMFS9904.htm>

IT IS SO ORDERED.

Dated: January 6, 2016

ORIGINAL ORDER SIGNED _____
DESTIE LEE OVERPECK
Administrative Director of the
Division of Workers' Compensation