



July 10, 2024

**Attention: Ohio Health Care Association, Academy of Senior Health Sciences,
 LeadingAge Ohio, and Medicaid Nursing Facility Providers**

Dear Colleagues,

On June 18, 2024, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) approved the state plan amendment (SPA) authorizing coverage of private room rate add-ons. Revised Code section 5165.158 provides that the Department can pay the total per Medicaid day payment rate for nursing facility services provided in private rooms on or after the date six months following the approval date by CMS, which is December 18, 2024.

ODM will take several steps to prepare for coverage implementation over the intervening time:

- All private room applications have been reviewed.
- The Department will send notices of approval of applications to qualifying Nursing Facilities (NFs) in the next few weeks. Please refer to the application instructions for requirements that must be satisfied for applications to receive final approval.
- The Department will conduct site reviews of approximately 51 providers. The information supplied with these specific applications was insufficient to establish that the rooms in question met the requirements to be counted as private rooms.
- The Department will develop detailed billing instructions for the rate add-on.
- The Department will update the draft OAC rule to ensure it matches the terms of the approved SPA and will initiate the proposed filing.
- The Department will work with system vendors to establish provider coding and billing for dates of service on or after December 18.
- The Department will coordinate with the MyCare plans and Managed Care Organizations to ensure they are prepared to process NF claims with the private rate add-on. Any changes that may be needed to the rates or ODM/MCO provider agreements will be addressed.

Further communications and updates will be forthcoming as the Department prepares for coverage implementation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Maureen M. Corcoran".

Maureen Corcoran, Director