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Recipients

Accountable Officers clinical commissioning groups
Directors of finance clinical commissioning groups
Directors of nursing clinical commissioning groups

Cc:

NHS England and NHS Improvement regional directors
NHS Clinical Commissioners

17th July 2020

Dear Colleague,

Funded nursing care rate – recommended approach to backdating payments for 2019/20

On 30 April 2020, the Department of Health and Social Care announced the new rates for NHS-funded nursing care (FNC).¹ Our regional teams then provided advice to CCGs on what initial steps to take.

This letter supplements those earlier communications. It sets out the process for providing the backdated funded nursing care contribution for 2019/20. The recommended approach has been co-produced with Care England. The aim is to have a simple process that provides the necessary assurance while settling payments quickly.

There has already been advice for CCGs to pay the 2020/21 rates. We have also explained how national funding will be provided through the retrospective top-up process for backdated payments related to 2019/20.

Recommended approach

The CCGs or those working on behalf of the CCG (local authority, CSU or community provider), hereafter referred to as the CCG, are to review and consolidate data on FNC for 2019/20 and work with the care home provider throughout the backdating process.

¹ <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/nhs-funded-nursing-care-rate-announced-for-2020-to-2021>

The care home provider will send the CCG the following information to cross-reference and mutually determine the backdated FNC payments:

- name of CCG
- resident ID (unique ID) or if unavailable, name of resident
- admission date
- date range from
- date range to
- number days
- amount backdated
- total sum by days by rate
- total sum per CCG.

Any documents will be sent securely, password protected if identifiable information or by email if only an ID file. This will then be verified by the CCG, enabling them to settle the total sum or query.

Responsibilities

The payment contribution for NHS FNC for those deemed eligible is made under a contractual arrangement between the responsible CCG and the care home provider caring for the person receiving FNC. It is not a payment made to the individual, although the CCG may wish to advise the FNC recipient that the care home may contact them directly to discuss any personal contribution for care made under the terms of their contract.

All backdated payments should be made by the CCG to the care home providers under the arrangements made in 2019/20. They also should adhere to the requirements set out in continuing healthcare national framework and the *NHS-funded nursing care practice guidance* (2018):

“Where a CCG assesses that the resident’s needs require the input of a registered nurse they will pay the NHS-funded nursing care payment (at the

nationally agreed rate) direct to the care home, unless there is an agreement in place for this to be paid via a third party (eg a local authority)".²

It is for care home provider to ensure that contractual arrangements between them and the individual are clear on the relationship between the FNC payment and the self-funded contribution to the overall fees. Care home providers have received [guidance from the Competition and Markets Authority](#) specific to FNC. If the individual has a dispute regarding their contribution to care home fees which includes an FNC issue, this is a private matter between them and the care home.

If there are any queries about the content of this letter or other operational questions, please contact Nicky Yiasoumi, Continuing Healthcare Strategic Improvement Programme Commissioning Lead, nicky.yiasoumi@nhs.net.



Yours faithfully,

Matthew Winn
Director of Community Health
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² Paragraph 256

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/746063/20181001_National_Framework_for_CHC_and_FNC_-_October_2018_Revised.pdf