



STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN RESOURCES  
Bureau for Medical Services

Bill J. Crouch  
Cabinet Secretary

Cynthia E. Beane  
Commissioner

MEMORANDUM

TO: WV Medicaid Providers

FROM: Cynthia Beane, MSW, LCSW  
Commissioner

DATE: October 14, 2020

SUBJECT: Swing Bed Use During COVID-19 Public Health Emergency

**Overview**

West Virginia Medicaid will begin coverage of swing beds in order to facilitate acute care hospital discharges and permit new admissions due to COVID-19 related increased need during the public health emergency declaration.

To qualify for a swing bed, or skilled nursing facility level of services, a member is required to receive acute care in a hospital inpatient for a medically necessary stay of at three (3) consecutive calendar days. The facility providing the swing bed must have a plan to provide a program of activities appropriate for the patient, including social work services.

Patients must require one or more of the following services to qualify for the swing bed program: daily skilled care, nursing, and/or rehabilitation (physical, occupational or speech therapy).

**Billing**

Hospitals are required to show a discharge from the acute care hospital bed and a readmission to the Swing Bed on different claims.

**Effective September 21, 2020**, the reimbursement of \$238.00 per day per diem will be applied to all Acute Care Hospitals/Facilities.

**Effective October 19, 2020**, the individual Medicare Swing Bed rate will be reimbursed for each Critical Access Hospital/Facility.

All facilities should use their current NPI enrolled with Gainwell, formally DXC Technology, Inc., not their Medicare swing bed NPI.

Prior authorization will not be required, however retro review will be allowed by the current benefit administrator.