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Resolution

Resolution 2025-01 Muskogee County Emergency Medical Service

A resolution relating to the changes in billing practices for ambulance transportation after the passage of the sales tax on January 14th, 2025 and how charges will be billed for and applied.

Resolved in this meeting of the board of trustees of Muskogee County Emergency Medical Service held on March 13th, 2025, taking effect on April 1st, 2025 and pertaining to ambulance service with dates or service on or after this date.

1. **Medical Necessity**: Means ambulance care and transportation that would otherwise be deemed as medically necessary by the standard set forth and maintained by the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services at the time of service.

2. **County Resident Charges**: For Muskogee County Emergency Medical Service (MCEMS) patients who are county residents at the time of the ambulance service, MCEMS will bill and attempt to collect any and all applicable insurance proceeds otherwise payable for covered services. Beyond that amount, and/or in the absence of insurance coverage or other responsible payer, the county resident patient will not be responsible for other cost-sharing or out-of-pocket costs.

    a. An individual who is residing in a nursing facility or assisted living center or other residential facility on a date of service after 4-1-2025 will be considered a county resident with regards to the terms for county resident charges as listed above.

    b. If an in-county medical or residential facility would otherwise be the responsible payer for ambulance services provided , then that facility will be billed for the appropriate level of care at 100% of the then applicable Medicare allowable amount.

    c. MCEMS patients and other payers are expected to provide or assist in the acquisition of medical coverage information and signatures necessary to assist MCEMS with the filling of the medical claims and recovery of payable proceeds due MCEMS. Failure to provide this information or assist in acquiring it may result in the county resident being held responsible for payment of services.

d. County residents who are picked up outside Muskogee County: State law does not allow for tax dollars to subsidize services provided outside the county, defined as the patient is picked up outside the county.

e. Repetitive Lift Assist calls: significant recurrence of these may still result in the county resident being billed for these services that become repetitive.

3. **Non-county residents**: these individuals will continue to be responsible for the out-of-pocket cost share amounts according to their applicable coverage, or in the absence of insurance coverage, they will be responsible for the billed charge.

4. **Medical Debt Incurred Prior to April 1st, 2025**: Medical debit otherwise due to MCEMS that was incurred as a result of services provided prior to this date are still owed until satisfied and in accordance with state and federal laws.

5. **Memberships**: MCEMS will no longer sell memberships/subscriptions.

6. **Event Standby**: MCEMS will continue to charge for reserved ambulance standby at events by for-profit venues/entities, and for dedicated coverage at school events.

Severance – Should any part of this resolution be found to be in contravention of state law, then that part shall be considered invalid leaving the remainder intact. No part of this regulation shall limit the scope of services offered by the ambulance service provided by the district. The district shall have the authority to modify this resolution as necessary or as desired.

This Resolution is affirmed and adopted by virtue of its passage by the Board of Trustees at their regular meeting on this 13th day of March, 2025.

Chairman Darrell Russell

3·13·25
Date

Secretary-Treasurer Jerry Millsap

3·13·25
Date