

NOTICE OF RULE MAKING

The Director of the Division of Medical Services of the Department of Human Services announces for a public comment period of thirty (30) calendar days a notice of rulemaking for the following proposed rule under one or more of the following chapters, subchapters, or sections of the Arkansas Code: §§ 20-76-201, 20-77-107, and 25-10-129.

Effective January 1, 2020:

Act 2019, No. 58, amended Ark. Code Ann. § 20-15-302 to add spinal muscular atrophy to the list of metabolic diseases for which all newborn infants in the state must be tested. In addition, Act 58 created a new subchapter in the Arkansas Code that requires health benefit plans, including Arkansas Medicaid, to provide coverage for newborn screening for spinal muscular atrophy. The revision in this promulgation of the Medicaid Hospital provider manual, section 272.450, procedure code S3620, provides that Arkansas Medicaid will cover the metabolic diseases listed in Ark. Code Ann. § 20-15-302 in the Newborn Metabolic Screening panel. This promulgation implements Act 58.

Section 272.450, procedure code S3620, of the Medicaid Hospital provider manual will be updated to remove current language that states “all newborn infants shall be tested for phenylketonuria, hypothyroidism, galactosemia, cystic fibrosis, and sickle-cell anemia” as required by Ark. Code Ann. § 20-15-302 and replace these references to specific diseases with a statement providing that all newborns will be tested for “certain metabolic diseases” as required by Ark. Code Ann. § 20-15-302.

The proposed rule is available for review at the Department of Human Services (DHS) Office of Rules Promulgation, 2nd floor Donaghey Plaza South Building, 7th and Main Streets, P. O. Box 1437, Slot S295, Little Rock, Arkansas 72203-1437. You may also access and download the proposed rule on the Medicaid website at <https://medicaid.mmis.arkansas.gov/General/Comment/Comment.aspx>. Public comments must be submitted in writing at the above address or at the following email address: ORP@dhs.arkansas.gov. All public comments must be received by DHS no later than **November 4, 2019**. Please note that public comments submitted in response to this notice are considered public documents. A public comment, including the commenter’s name and any personal information contained within the public comment, will be made publicly available and may be seen by various people.

If you need this material in a different format, such as large print, contact the Office of Rules Promulgation at 501-320-6266.

The Arkansas Department of Human Services is in compliance with Titles VI and VII of the Civil Rights Act and is operated, managed and delivers services without regard to religion, disability, political affiliation, veteran status, age, race, color or national origin. **4501888131**



Janet Mann, Director
Division of Medical Services