

Comments for Chapter 532, Private Duty Nursing Services

Effective Date: May 1, 2020

<u>Comment Number</u>	<u>Date Received</u>	<u>Comment</u>	<u>Action</u>
1.	3/10/2020	Definitely would like to see an increase in reimbursement rates for private duty nursing. Nurses don't want to stay in home health due to low pay rates.	Effective January 1, 2020, a change to the reimbursement rate for the Private Duty Nursing Service code T1000 – PDN increased per 15-minute units. A notification letter was sent to all WV Private Duty Providers on December 16, 2019.
2	3/10/2020	I would like to say that Private Duty Nursing is a crucial and beneficial service for special needs children and their families. Without this service, there are so many kids who can't come home from the hospital from the start of their lives. They may even be required to stay at a long-term care facility, rather than being at home with their loved ones. Also, without this service, these kids are unable to fully benefit from being able to stay home rather than having to go to the doctor all the time or to the hospital and run the risk of being exposed to illnesses that may be detrimental to their well-being. The problem is that there has been no change/increase in the reimbursement rate in 13 years. Due to the reimbursement rates, the pay for private duty nursing is beyond lacking. This prevents us from being able to recruit and retain nurses for private duty nursing. Our Administrator has written an article and has fought to try to get an increase, but to no avail. Due to this, we are only able to offer to these nurses is flexibility in their schedules and the opportunity to just be able to focus on one patient. However, due to the cost of living, the nursing shortage and competition with healthcare jobs, pay is the important factor. I think that it would be beneficial and wise if the ones making the decisions for reimbursement rates, as well as other decisions regarding private duty nursing, to take a close personal look at	Effective January 1, 2020, a change to the reimbursement rate for the Private Duty Nursing Service code T1000 – PDN increased per 15-minute units. A notification letter was sent to all WV Private Duty Providers on December 16, 2019.

		these special needs kids and their families. They deserve so much more than to just be a label and a number in the system.	
3	4/1/2020	<p>Hello,</p> <p>I have been a licensed nurse for 28 years. I currently work for [redacted] doing private duty in home care for children with special needs.</p> <p>I love my job. I work ten hours a day taking care if my clients daily needs. My comment is about my hourly pay rate. I've been with my company 5 years and counting now. I am embarrassed of my hourly pay rate of \$16.50. I've asked for a raise several times. I get excellent evaluations on my work, but I feel I deserve a better hourly rate. I'm told there's no good reimbursement for Medicaid cases, which is what most of the cases are. I made more money bank in 2012. I do not feel this is fair.</p> <p>My low pay rate makes me feel unimportant. I've had to take on another full-time job just to survive as a single mother. After three years with no raise I poured my heart out to my company. They came back with fifty cents. It was a slap in the face to put it nicely. Instead of getting mad and quitting I stayed. I have 5 years in and I love my clients. The kids and the family's need help. I take pride in my work and care for these kids like they were my own.</p> <p>I recently had a family member graduated a licensed practical nurse program. Those new graduates wouldn't even consider taking on a job with this kind of pay rate. Is there anything that can be done?</p> <p>I work from the time I get there until I leave. Home health nurses do the daily care, keep the therapies going, engage the activities to keep these youngsters entertained, we schedule and do doctors appts, we prepare tube feeding and medications as well as administer them and we make sure these kids have all the supplies they need. This job takes a nurse that is consistent, strong, reliable, and trustworthy. The parents always say there's no greater gift than nurse you can trust. I feel something should be done about the hourly pay rate being paid to most home health nurses. Not every case is private pay where the money is more. I feel like no one sees there is real need for change with this.</p> <p>I'm not just speaking for myself but for all the home health nurses and the handful of them that I know personally who work very hard for very low pay rates. I hope this helps and thank you for giving me the opportunity to tell someone my story. My supervisor, who is great and thought it was awful what my company did to me</p>	<p>Effective January 1, 2020, a change to the reimbursement rate for the Private Duty Nursing Service code T1000 – PDN increased per 15-minute units. A notification letter was sent to all WV Private Duty Providers on December 16, 2019.</p> <p>WV Medicaid cannot control the amount that the Agency pays to the nurse.</p>

		reached out to me with your email. Awareness is everything. Thank you and be blessed.	