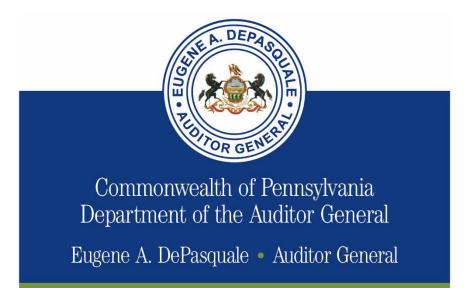
TOBACCO SETTLEMENT PROGRAM

Lehigh Valley Hospital – Schuylkill South

Tobacco Settlement Payment Data Review Year 2019

May 2018





Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Department of the Auditor General Harrisburg, PA 17120-0018 Facebook: Pennsylvania Auditor General Twitter: @PAAuditorGen

EUGENE A. DEPASQUALE AUDITOR GENERAL

April 23, 2018

Mr. Bernie Koskulitz Director, Strategic Reimbursement Lehigh Valley Health Network 420 South Jackson Street Pottsville, PA 17901

Re: Lehigh Valley Hospital – Schuylkill South

Dear Mr. Koskulitz:

The Tobacco Settlement Act of June 26, 2001 (P.L. 755, No. 77), as amended, 35 P.S. § 5701.101 et seq., mandated the Department of Human Services (DHS) to make payments to hospitals for a portion of uncompensated care services provided by these facilities. Hospitals that qualify can receive payments using either an uncompensated care approach or an extraordinary expense approach. The uncompensated care score of each hospital is determined by using three-year averages from five main data elements (for a total of fifteen data elements). These data elements are uncompensated care costs, net patient revenues, Medicare supplemental security income (Medicare SSI) days, Medical Assistance (MA) days and total inpatient days. A hospital qualifies for an extraordinary expense payment based on their number of qualified claims. Qualified claims are those claims in which the cost of the claim exceeds twice the average cost of all claims for that particular facility and for which the hospital provided inpatient services to an uninsured patient.

At the request of DHS, the Department of the Auditor General performed a review¹ of Lehigh Valley Hospital – Schuylkill South's records to substantiate the claims data and days data it submitted to the Pennsylvania Health Care Cost Containment Council (PHC4) and the DHS, respectively.

The purpose of our review was to determine whether this facility could substantiate its fiscal year ended June 30, 2017 reported claims and verify whether corresponding patients were uninsured and the facility received no compensation from third party payers such as Medicare, Medicaid, or Blue Cross. Payments made by the patients themselves toward their financial

¹ This review was not required to be and was not conducted in accordance with professional auditing or attestation standards.

obligations may have reduced the allowable costs of the respective claim when determining eligibility. We also determined whether this facility could substantiate total MA days as reported on its submitted MA-336 cost reports for the fiscal years ended June 30, 2015 and June 30, 2016.

The results of our review are as follows:

For Reported Claims:

Based on the PHC4 claims database for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2017, the facility reported one potentially eligible extraordinary expense claim for review. We could not determine whether this reported claim met the criteria to qualify as an extraordinary expense claim due to the reason noted below. The chart below details our results and explains any adjustments that should be made to the PHC4 Database. Since the facility did not have any claims that would qualify as an extraordinary expense claim, this facility may not be eligible for payment under the extraordinary expense method for the 2019 Tobacco Settlement Payment Year unless, as detailed below, additional claims are submitted and deemed eligible.

		Substantiated			
	Originally	Total Charges	Patient		
	Reported	Based on	Payments		
Claim	Total	Account	Applied to	Qualify (Y/N) – Reason	Adjustment
No.	Charges	Notes	Account	for Not Qualifying	Needed
1	\$36,007.45	N/A	N/A	N - The provider chose not	The facility
				to submit documentation	should not
				because the facility	be eligible
				historically had been paid	for payment
				under the UC calculation	under the EE
				method.	calculation
					method.

For MA Days:

For the total MA days for fiscal years ended June 30, 2015 and 2016, our results are as follows:

For FYE 6/30/15	Originally	Substantiated	Explanation of
	Submitted Number	Number Based on	Difference
	of Days	Source Documents	
FFS Days	1,216	1,216	N/A
HMO Days	7,836	7,836	N/A
OOS Days	0	0	N/A

For FYE 6/30/16	Originally	Substantiated	Explanation of
	Submitted Number	Number Based on	Difference
	of Days	Source Documents	
FFS Days	1,030	1,030	N/A
HMO Days	9,538	9,358	Reporting Error
OOS Days	0	0	N/A

The DHS will use all substantiated reported claims and number of days to calculate Lehigh Valley Hospital - Schuylkill South's eligibility to receive, and if deemed eligible, its subsidy entitlement under both the extraordinary expense and uncompensated care methods. If eligible under both methods, DHS will allow the facility to choose the method to be used to calculate the facility's 2019 Tobacco Settlement subsidy entitlement payment. DHS establishes the date that these payments will be distributed to all eligible hospitals.

Our office is currently reviewing all facilities that are potentially eligible for a 2019 Tobacco Settlement subsidy entitlement payment. After all the reviews are completed, we will prepare for DHS' use a report detailing the results of all of our reviews. The PHC4 and the DHS will contact you with instructions regarding entering adjustments to your facility's originally submitted claims and MA days data based on the results of our review.

As a reminder, all facilities may submit for our review any claims coded as having Medicare, Medicaid, or any other insurance when submitted to PHC4 for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2017, which the facility now believes qualify as self-pay claims, and which have total charges above Lehigh Valley Hospital – Schuylkill South's threshold of \$26,732.93. We refer to these types of claims as "additional claims" and these additional claims must be submitted to the Department of the Auditor General no later than October 31, 2018. The results of our review of each facility's submitted additional claims data will be detailed in individualized reports sent to each respective hospital that submitted additional claims.

We thank the staff of Lehigh Valley Health Network for the cooperation extended to us during the course of our review. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Tracie Fountain, CPA, Director, Bureau of Children and Youth Services Audits at 717-787-1159.

Sincerely,

EUGENE A. DEPASQUALE

Eugent O-Pager

Auditor General

LEHIGH VALLEY HOSPITAL – SCHUYLKILL SOUTH REPORT DISTRIBUTION 2019 TOBACCO SETTLEMENT PAYMENT DATA

This report was initially distributed to:

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Bureau of Managed Care Department of Human Services

Mr. Bernie Koskulitz

Director, Strategic Reimbursement Lehigh Valley Health Network

This report is a matter of public record and is available online at www.PaAuditor.gov. Media questions about the report can be directed to the Pennsylvania Department of the Auditor General, Office of Communications, 229 Finance Building, Harrisburg, PA 17120; via email to: news@PaAuditor.gov.