

addressed stamped postcard. Note that all comments received, including any personal information, will be posted and will be available to Internet users, without change, to [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov). You may review DOT's complete Privacy Act Statement in the **Federal Register** published April 11, 2000, (65 FR 19477), or you may visit [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov). Docket: For access to the docket to read background documents and comments received, go to [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov) at any time. Background documents and comments received may also be viewed at the U.S. Department of Transportation, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE., Docket Operations, M-30, West Building, Ground Floor, Room W12-140, Washington, DC 20590-0001 between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except federal holidays.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Dave Longo, FTA Office of Communications and Congressional Affairs, (202) 366-0608, or e-mail: [David.Longo@dot.gov](mailto:David.Longo@dot.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Interested parties are invited to send comments regarding any aspect of this information collection, including: (1) The necessity and utility of the information collection for the proper performance of the functions of the FTA; (2) the accuracy of the estimated burden; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the collected information; and (4) ways to minimize the collection burden without reducing the quality of the collected information. Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for OMB approval of this information collection.

*Title:* Customer Satisfaction Survey for FTA's Public Web site Contact Us Tool.

*OMB Number:* 2132-New.

*Background:* Executive Order 12862, "Setting Customer Service Standards," requires FTA to identify its customers and determine what they think about FTA's service. The surveys covered in this request will provide FTA with a means to gather data directly from its customers. The information obtained from the surveys will be used to assess how FTA's services are perceived by customers and stakeholders, determine opportunities for improvement and ensure FTA's customers receive the highest level of customer support. The surveys will be limited to data collections that solicit voluntary opinions and will not involve information that is required by regulations.

*Respondents:* General public, State and local government, public and private transit operators, transit constituents, and other stakeholders.

*Estimated Annual Burden on Respondents:* 10 minutes for each of the 1,230 respondents.

*Estimated Total Annual Burden:* 205 hours.

*Frequency:* Annual.

Issued: December 17, 2007.

**Ann M. Linnertz,**

*Associate Administrator for Administration.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

### Reasonable Charges for Medical Care or Services; 2008 Calendar Year Update

**AGENCY:** Department of Veterans Affairs.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** Title 38 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), section 17.01 sets forth the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) medical regulations concerning "reasonable charges" for medical care or services provided or furnished by VA to a veteran for: (1) A non-service-connected disability for which the veteran is entitled to care or the payment of expenses for care under a health plan contract; (2) a non-service-connected disability incurred incident to the veteran's employment and covered under a worker's compensation law or plan that provides reimbursement or indemnification for such care and services; or (3) a non-service-connected disability incurred as a result of a motor vehicle accident in a State that requires automobile accident reparations insurance.

The regulations include methodologies for establishing billed amounts for the following types of charges: Acute inpatient facility charges; skilled nursing facility and sub-acute inpatient facility charges; partial hospitalization facility charges; outpatient facility charges; physician and other professional charges, including professional charges for anesthesia services and dental services; pathology and laboratory charges; observation care facility charges; ambulance and other emergency transportation charges; and charges for durable medical equipment, drugs, injectables, and other medical services, items, and supplies identified by Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System (HCPCS) Level II codes. The

regulations also provide that data for calculating actual charge amounts at individual VA facilities based on these methodologies will either be published as a notice in the **Federal Register** or will be posted on the Internet site of the Veterans Health Administration Chief Business Office, currently at <http://www.va.gov/cbo>, under "Charge Data." Certain charges are hereby updated as described in the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section of this notice. These changes are effective January 1, 2008.

In circumstances when charges for medical care or services provided or furnished at VA expense, by either VA or non-VA providers, have not been established under other provisions or regulations, the method for determining VA's charges is set forth at 38 CFR 17.101(a)(8).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Romona Greene, Chief Business Office (168), Veterans Health Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20420, (202) 254-0361. (This is not a toll free number.)

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Of the charge types listed in the Summary section of this notice, acute inpatient facility charges and skilled nursing facility/sub-acute inpatient facility charges are not being changed. Acute inpatient facility charges remain the same as set forth in a notice published in the **Federal Register** on September 28, 2007 (72 FR 57276). VA's current inpatient charge structure utilizes the methodology set forth in 38 CFR 17.101 and does not itemize inpatient bills. Skilled nursing facility/sub-acute inpatient facility charges also remain the same as set forth in a notice published in the **Federal Register** on September 28, 2007 (72 FR 57276).

Based on the methodologies set forth in 38 CFR 17.101, this document provides an update to charges for 2008 HCPCS Level II and Current Procedural Technology (CPT) codes. Charges are also being updated based on more recent versions of data sources for the following charge types: Partial hospitalization facility charges; outpatient facility charges; physician and other professional charges, including professional charges for anesthesia services and dental services; pathology and laboratory charges; observation care facility charges; ambulance and other emergency transportation charges; and charges for durable medical equipment, drugs, injectables, and other medical services, items, and supplies identified by

HCPCS Level II codes. These updated charges are effective January 1, 2008.

In this update, we are retaining the table designations used for HCPCS Level II and Current Procedural Technology (CPT) Codes in the notice posted on the Internet site of the Veterans Health Administration Chief Business Office currently at <http://www.va.gov/cbo>, under "Charge Data." The effective date of this change was December 22, 2006, and the notice can also be found in the **Federal Register** (71 FR 77096). Accordingly, the tables identified as being updated by this notice correspond to the applicable tables posted on the

Internet with the notice, beginning with Table C.

VA has updated the list of data sources presented in Supplementary Table 1 to reflect the updated data sources used to establish the updated charges described in this notice.

The list of VA medical facility locations has also been updated. As a reminder, in Supplementary Table 3 we set forth the list of VA medical facility locations, which includes the first three-digits of their zip codes and provider based/non-provider based designations.

Consistent with the VA's regulations, the updated data tables and supplementary tables containing the

changes described in this notice will be posted on the Internet site of the Veterans Health Administration Chief Business Office, currently at <http://www.va.gov/cbo>, under "Charge Data (Rates)." The updated data tables and supplementary tables containing the changes described will be effective until changed by a subsequent **Federal Register** notice.

Approved: December 17, 2007.

**Gordon H. Mansfield,**

*Acting Secretary.*

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