



DEPARTMENT OF
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Promoting and protecting health, well-being, self-sufficiency, and safety of all in Marin County.



February 14, 2017

Marin County Board of Supervisors
3501 Civic Center Drive
San Rafael, CA 94903

Grant Nash Colfax, MD
DIRECTOR

Celia Allen
CHIEF FISCAL OFFICER

SUBJECT: Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Public Health, public hearing to consider Resolutions revising fees for Medical Clinics services, immunization services; public health laboratory services, and Medical Marijuana Identification Cards effective March 1, 2017.

Dear Supervisors:

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Authorize President to adopt Resolution revising fee schedule for Medical Clinics services effective March 1, 2017.
2. Authorize President to adopt Resolution revising fee schedule for immunization services effective March 1, 2017.
3. Authorize President to adopt Resolution revising fee schedule for public health laboratory services effective March 1, 2017.
4. Authorize President to adopt Resolution revising fee schedule for Medical Marijuana Identification Cards March 1, 2017.

SUMMARY: Consistent with your Board's direction to ensure that fees and charges keep pace with our cost of doing business the Department requests a hearing be set to consider revising fees for several Division of Public Health services: Medical Clinics services, immunization services, and public health laboratory services. The fees for these services have not been adjusted for several years, although costs associated with the services provided continued to increase. Additionally, the recent passage by voters of Proposition 64, the "Adult Use of Marijuana Act", necessitates adjustments to the fees for the Medical Marijuana Identification Card program to reflect the changes in State law.

The Department has completed comprehensive fee studies and proposes the individual resolutions and associated fee schedules attached as:

ATTACHMENT A: RESOLUTION OF THE MARIN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS ADOPTING A FEE SCHEDULE FOR DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES DIVISION OF PUBLIC HEALTH MEDICAL CLINICS SERVICES EFFECTIVE MARCH 1, 2017

ATTACHMENT B: RESOLUTION OF THE MARIN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS ADOPTING A FEE SCHEDULE FOR DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

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DIVISION OF PUBLIC HEALTH IMMUNIZATION SERVICES
EFFECTIVE MARCH 1, 2017

ATTACHMENT C: RESOLUTION OF THE MARIN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS ADOPTING A FEE SCHEDULE FOR DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY SERVICES EFFECTIVE MARCH 1, 2017

ATTACHMENT D: RESOLUTION OF THE MARIN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS ADOPTING A FEE SCHEDULE FOR DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES MEDICAL MARIJUANA IDENTIFICATION CARDS EFFECTIVE MARCH 1, 2017

I. RESOLUTION OF THE MARIN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS ADOPTING A FEE SCHEDULE FOR DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES DIVISION OF PUBLIC HEALTH MEDICAL CLINICS EFFECTIVE MARCH 1, 2017

The proposed fee schedules for Medical Clinics services and associated outside laboratory services will allow the Department to recover a higher portion of the cost of providing the services and maximize potential revenue from third party payers. The revision of the Medical Clinics fees also assure consistency with Medi-Cal reimbursement rates as federal law prohibits clinics from charging any client less than the amount paid by Medi-Cal for that service.

The proposed fee schedules and sliding fee schedule will also apply to those “cash pay” clients who are not covered by Medi-Cal or any other public or private health coverage program, or whose services are only partially covered by these funding sources. The proposed sliding fee schedule is based on income, family size, and other factors which determine a client’s ability to pay. The five tiers of payment are based upon the recipient’s income level, from under 100% of federal poverty level (\$20,160 for a family of three) up to but excluding 351% (amounts over \$70,761 for a family of three). For example, clients up to 100% of the federal poverty level will pay 30% of the approved fee and clients at 351% of the federal poverty level will pay 100% of the approved fee.

Of the 41 procedures and medications offered by the Medical Clinics, 18 procedures are not on the current fee schedule because they are new procedures being offered or procedures that should have been included in the current fee schedule. The current approved fee schedule also does not include outside laboratory fees. Thus, the Medical Clinics cannot charge clients for these services. The proposed fee schedules address these two issues. In addition to the fee charged by the outside laboratory, the Department proposes to add a 15% administration fee to help recover some of our cost for staff to process the specimens. Although, there are adjustments in fees to reflect changes in clinic and outside laboratory costs, the proposed fee schedules are not expected to deter low income clients from receiving the services they need.

The fees for Medical Clinics services were last adjusted in 2011.

**II. RESOLUTION OF THE MARIN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
ADOPTING A FEE SCHEDULE FOR DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND
HUMAN SERVICES DIVISION OF PUBLIC HEALTH IMMUNIZATION
SERVICES EFFECTIVE MARCH 1, 2017**

The Department proposes to revise its immunization fee schedule to assure consistency with Medi-Cal reimbursement rates as federal law prohibits clinics from charging any client less than the amount paid by Medi-Cal for that service. Nine vaccines offered are currently below the associated Medi-Cal reimbursement rate and the Department cannot charge for three vaccines because they have no current approved fee. The proposed fee schedule addresses these two issues.

Additionally, the Department receives free vaccine from the State through both the Vaccines for Children and Centers for Disease Control Section 317 Immunization Grant programs. The guidelines permit the Department to charge an administration fee to administer these vaccines up to \$26.00 per vaccine, the maximum currently allowed in California, and no patient is denied a vaccine due to inability to pay. The Department's current fee to administer vaccines to those with an ability to pay is \$17.00 and the Department proposes to increase that fee to the allowable \$26.00. Clients with Medi-Cal will have the fee billed to and reimbursed by Medi-Cal.

The proposed immunization fee schedule is intended to provide a reasonable cost recovery, assure compliance with Medi-Cal regulations, and offer immunizations not on the current fee schedule. The proposed fees are not expected to deter low income clients from receiving the services they need.

The fees for immunization services were last adjusted in 2012.

**III. RESOLUTION OF THE MARIN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
ADOPTING A FEE SCHEDULE FOR DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND
HUMAN SERVICES PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY SERVICES
EFFECTIVE MARCH 1, 2017**

On July 1, 2013, through a Joint Powers Agreement (JPA), Marin County joined a regional public health laboratory which then became the Napa-Solano-Yolo-Marin County Public Health Laboratory. The fee schedule for the Napa-Solano-Yolo-Marin County Public Health Laboratory is established by the Solano County Board of Supervisors based on the cost to provide the services as the laboratory facility is operated by Solano County Public Health staff.

Comparing the current Napa-Solano-Yolo-Marin County Public Health Laboratory fee schedule to the proposed fee schedule, 54 fees were increased due to higher costs of the regional public health laboratory to provide the services and three fees decreased as State law prohibits charges greater than costs. Additionally, the proposed fee schedule adds 73 laboratory tests and associated fees that are not on the current Napa-Solano-Yolo-Marin Public Health Laboratory fee schedule. The Department's proposed fee schedule adds a 15% administration fee to the regional public health laboratory's fee to help recover some of our cost for staff to receive and process the specimens for transport to the Napa-Solano-Yolo-Marin County Public Health Laboratory.

The fees for Napa-Solano-Yolo-Marin public health laboratory services were last adjusted in 2013.

IV. RESOLUTION OF THE MARIN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS ADOPTING A FEE SCHEDULE FOR DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES MEDICAL MARIJUANA IDENTIFICATION CARDS EFFECTIVE MARCH 1, 2017

The California Medical Marijuana Identification (ID) Card Program provides a statewide identification system for individuals whose physician has recommended the use of marijuana for medicinal purposes. Under the program, established in 2004, the State establishes guidelines and counties issue the cards and administer the program at the local level. State legislation requires that the program implement a fee structure to cover the costs of the program and provides for a fifty percent reduction in the fees for Medi-Cal beneficiaries.

The current fee for the issuance of the cards is \$56.50 for Medi-Cal beneficiaries and \$113.00 for all others. The \$56.50 fee is comprised of the State’s \$33.00 fee and Marin County’s \$23.50 fee. The \$113.00 fee for all other participants is comprised of the State’s \$66.00 fee and Marin County’s \$47.00 fee. The current State fees were set in 2007 and Marin County’s fees were established by your Board in 2005.

Proposition 64, also known as the “Adult Use of Marijuana Act”, passed by California voters on November 8, 2016, established that the State would no longer collect fees from counties to support State program operational costs effective November 9, 2016. The Department stopped collecting the State portion of the fee when it received notification from the State about this change, although several cards issued before such notification were charged the State portion but are in the process of being refunded to the clients.

Additionally, Proposition 64 authorizes counties to charge a fee up to \$100.00 to cover expenses to maintain the program at the county level. Counties may request reimbursement from the State for costs over \$100.00. Furthermore, Proposition 64 waives all Medical Marijuana ID Card fees for County Medical Services Program (CMSP) beneficiaries.

To maintain Marin County’s program on a cost-covered basis and in compliance with Proposition 64, the Department proposes a fee schedule that waives all fees for CMSP beneficiaries; reduces the fee from \$56.50 to \$50.00 per card for Medi-Cal beneficiaries; and reduces the fee from \$113.00 to \$100.00 for all others as illustrated below:

Client Type	Current Fee			Proposed Fee		
	TOTAL	County Portion	State fee	TOTAL	County Portion	State Fee
CMSP Beneficiaries	\$113.00	\$47.00	\$66.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Medi-Cal Beneficiaries	\$56.50	\$23.50	\$33.00	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$0.00
All Others	\$113.00	\$47.00	\$66.00	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$0.00

The Department will seek reimbursement from the State for its costs over the allowable \$100.00 fee.

FISCAL IMPACT: Approval of the proposed fee schedules will allow the Department to recover a higher portion of the cost of providing Medical Clinics services, immunization services, and public health laboratory services. Approval of the proposed fee schedule for the Medical Marijuana Identification Card program will allow the Department to recover more of its costs up to the maximum allowed, remove the State portion of the fee in accordance with State law, and will result in an overall decrease in the fee to the client. The Department will work with the CAO to adjust the budgets accordingly through the monthly budget adjustment process as additional revenues are recognized.

REVIEWED BY:	County Administrator	[X]	N/A	[]
	Department of Finance	[X]	N/A	[]
	County Counsel	[X]	N/A	[]
	Human Resources	[]	N/A	[X]

Respectfully submitted,

Grant Nash Colfax, MD
Director