



State of Vermont

Department of Vermont Health Access

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Agency of Human Services

## Department of Vermont Health Access: Follow-up from State Fiscal Year 2022 Budget Adjustment Testimony to the House Committee on Appropriations

**Question 1: Is Patient Access to Healthcare Information (Interoperability) a new program? Or did you start and not enough have enough money? (Representative Feltus)**

### DVHA Response:

The Department of Vermont Health Access and the Agency of Digital Services (ADS) were working jointly to satisfy the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services' (CMS) Interoperability requirement during SFY22 budget development process; a competitive bid process was underway and Gainwell Technologies, LLC, was chosen as the State's Interoperability vendor. The design, development and implementation was included in the SFY22 budget; the \$281,333 (gross) increase in the Department of Vermont Health Access' SFY22 budget adjustment represents anticipated contract costs allocable to the maintenance and operations for the period of performance after the go-live in April 2022.

**Question 2: Is there a list of planned annual Medicaid rate adjustments as described in the State Fiscal year 2022 Budget Adjustment that can be shared with Representative Yacovone and Representative Houghton?**

### DVHA Response:

The Department of Vermont Health Access maintains many reimbursement methodologies for Vermont Medicaid payment rates. Examples of reimbursement methodologies maintained by the Department of Vermont Health Access include the Resource-Based Relative Value Scale fee schedule for professional services (e.g., primary care, specialty, and mental health services), the Outpatient Prospective Payment System (i.e., for hospital outpatient services), and the Federally Qualified Health Center and Rural Health Clinic Prospective Payment System (i.e., for FQHCs and RHCs).

In accordance with Act 72 of 2019, a [Dental Access and Reimbursement Working Group report](#) recommended establishment of a reimbursement methodology for the Dental Fee Schedule (i.e., for dental services); the annual rate adjustment included in the State Fiscal Year 2022 Budget Adjustment includes implementation of the first phase of this methodology as updated for 2022.

The annual rate adjustments by fee schedule/methodology included in the Department of Vermont Health Access' State Fiscal Year 2022 Budget Adjustment are listed in the table on the next page.

Fee Schedule/Methodology	Estimated Gross Fiscal Impact - SFY22 BAA	State Fiscal Impact	Vermont Medicaid Public Notice Link
Professional Services	\$ 3,491,044	\$ 1,531,799	<a href="#">21-036-Proposed-GCR-RBRVS-CY2022.pdf (vermont.gov)</a>
Outpatient Hospital Services	\$ 641,277	\$ 281,379	<a href="#">21-034-Proposed-GCR-OPPS-CY2022.pdf (vermont.gov)</a>
Dental Services*	\$ 395,483	\$ 173,530	Pending
Federally Qualified Health Centers and Rural Health Clinics	\$ 180,337	\$ 79,128	<a href="#">21-060-Proposed-GCR-FQHC-RHC-Rates-CY2022.pdf (vermont.gov)</a>
Home Health Services	\$ 158,377	\$ 69,493	<a href="#">21-090-Proposed-GCR-HH-HT-Pediatric-Palliative-Rates-CY2022.pdf (vermont.gov)</a>
Hospice Services	\$ 5,943	\$ 2,608	<a href="#">21-089-Proposed-GCR-Hospice-Rates-CY2022.pdf (vermont.gov)</a>
Durable Medical Equipment, Prosthetics, Orthotics, and Supplies	\$ (7,121)	\$ (3,125)	<a href="#">21-080-Proposed-GCR-DMEPOS-Fee-Schedule-Update.pdf (vermont.gov)</a>
Physician Administered Drugs	\$ (35,033)	\$ (15,372)	<a href="#">21-038-Proposed-GCR-Physician-Administered-Drugs-CY2022.pdf (vermont.gov)</a>
Clinical Laboratory Services^	\$ (114,032)	\$ (50,035)	Pending
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 4,716,275</b>	<b>\$ 2,069,406</b>	

\*Implementation target 2/1/2022.

^Modeling forthcoming; estimate based on prior year information. Implementation target 4/2/2022.