

2019 Medicare Relative Value Tables for Minnesota workers' compensation use beginning Oct. 1, 2019

As required by Minnesota Statutes § 176.136, subd. 1a, paragraph (d), on Aug. 15, 2019, the commissioner published in the *State Register* a Notice of Incorporation by Reference of the 2019 Relative Value Tables, July Release, dated May 3, 2019, and established by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). These tables are effective for workers' compensation medical services provided on or after Oct. 1, 2019.

Access the tables

To access these tables, take the following steps.

Step 1

Open this link: www.cms.gov/Medicare/Medicare-Fee-for-Service-Payment/PhysicianFeeSched/PFS-Relative-Value-Files-Items/RVU19C.html?DLPage=1&DLEntries=10&DLSort=0&DLSortDir=descending.

Step 2

Click on the link to "RVU19C [Zip, 3MB]" (under "Downloads").

Step 3

Open the RVU19C WinZip file.

Step 4

- Open any of the three **GPCI2019** files (comma separated values file, text document or Microsoft Excel spreadsheet) to obtain the 2019 geographic practice cost indices for Minnesota. For your convenience, the GPCI values for Minnesota are as follows.

Work GPCI	PE GPCI	MP GPCI
1.0	1.011	0.362

- Open any of the three **PPRRVU19_JUL** files (comma separated values file, text document or Microsoft Excel spreadsheet) to obtain the 2019 relative value units and associated indicators (**dated May 3, 2019**).

Step 5

Use the CMS tables from Step 4 and the Minnesota workers' compensation fee schedule implementation rules and the Minnesota workers' compensation conversion factors to determine the Minnesota workers' compensation maximum fees. The Minnesota workers' compensation conversion factors and maximum fee formulas can be found in Minnesota Rules, part 5221.4020. The Minnesota workers' compensation implementation rules are in Minnesota Rules, parts 5221.4005 to 5221.4061.

Example calculations

The following are examples of calculating the Minnesota workers' compensation maximum fee under the resource-based relative value fee schedule (RBRVS) using the Medicare Relative Value Tables indicated above. The conversion factor used, for example only, is \$60.00.

1. For medical/surgical services provided by physicians in an office setting – example HCPCS code 99201.

Maximum fee: [(work RVU*work GPCI) + (nonfacility PE RVU*PE GPCI) + (MP RVU*MP GPCI)]* conversion factor (CF).

Work RVU: 0.48 (work RVU, col. F) x 1.0 (work GPCI) = 0.48

Practice expense RVU: 0.76 (nonfacility PE RVU, col. G) x 1.011 (PE GPCI) = 0.76836

Malpractice expense RVU: 0.05 (MP RVU, col. K) x .362 (MP GPCI) = 0.0181

Total GPCI-adjusted RVU = 0.48 + 0.76836 + 0.0181 = 1.26646

Maximum fee = 1.26646 x \$60.00 (CF, for example only) = \$75.99 (rounded)

2. For medical/surgical services provided in a facility setting – example HCPCS code 12002.

Maximum fee: [(work RVU*work GPCI) + (facility PE RVU*PE GPCI) + (MP RVU*MP GPCI)]* conversion factor (CF).

Work RVU: 1.14 (work RVU, col. F) x 1.0 (work GPCI) = 1.140

Practice expense RVU: 0.38 (facility PE RVU, col. I) x 1.011 (PE GPCI) = 0.384

Malpractice expense RVU: 0.15 (MP RVU, col. K) x 0.362 (MP GPCI) = 0.054

Total GPCU-adjusted RVU = 1.140 + 0.384 + 0.054 = 1.578

Maximum fee = 1.578 x \$60.00 (CF, for example only) = \$94.68 (rounded)

Minnesota workers' compensation RBRVS table

The Department of Labor and Industry's (DLI's) website includes a Minnesota workers' compensation resource-based relative value fee schedule table for payment of workers' compensation professional medical services according to Minnesota Rules, parts 5221.4005 to 5221.4061.

DLI will update this table annually, no later than Oct. 1, to reflect the annual adjustments to the RBRVS conversion factors in Minn. R., part 5221.4020. The table and corresponding instructions for its use are available at www.dli.mn.gov/business/workers-compensation/work-comp-medical-fee-schedules-rbrvs. **Make sure you are using the table that corresponds to the date of service.**