

New Hampshire Ground Ambulance Cost Study

Rate Model Presentation
Joint SEG/SAG Meeting

December 23, 2024

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Overview of Project

Study Purpose

To gather detailed information on the financial landscape of ground ambulance services in New Hampshire. The study will:

- Assess Costs
- Evaluate Paid Claims
- Develop a Rate Schedule
- Support Legislation



Legislative Mandate

In accordance with [Senate Bill 407](#), a law that was passed by the New Hampshire legislature this spring, the primary goal of this study is to accurately assess the financial landscape of Licensed EMS Units in New Hampshire. The data collected will be used to develop a fair and sustainable reimbursement model that reflects the costs of providing these essential services.

To develop a rate schedule based off the data collected from Licensed EMS Units and Town Managers



Rate Development Process



- We have calculated recommended rates
- Lewis & Ellis have done financial impact modeling

Procedures Covered

Procedures Covered In Study

Procedure Codes Included		
Procedure Code	Description	Category
A0426	Advanced Life Support, Level 1 (ALS1), Non-emergency	Transport
A0427	Advanced Life Support, Level 1 (ALS1), Emergency	
A0428	Basic Life Support (BLS), Non-emergency	
A0429	Basic Life Support (BLS), Emergency	
A0432	Paramedic Intercept, Volunteer Ambulance Co	
A0433	Advanced Life Support, Level 2 (ALS2)	
A0434	Specialty Care Transport (SCT)	
A0998	Response and Treatment, no transport	Treat No Transport
A0425	Mileage	Mileage





Additional Factors

Considerations

The rates incorporate the following factors:

- Geography – through use of CMS developed Urban/Rural/Super Rural adjustment
- Inflation – through use of medical Northeast-region specific Consumer Price Index (CPI) published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS)
- Local tax revenues earmarked for EMS services
- Provision for Adverse Determination (PAD)
 - Expressed in a positive percentage adjustment, accounts for uncertainty in rate development and increased confidence in rate sufficiency
- Volunteer Costs



Methodology Summary – Transport Codes

Transport Codes - Methodology

Does not include following codes:

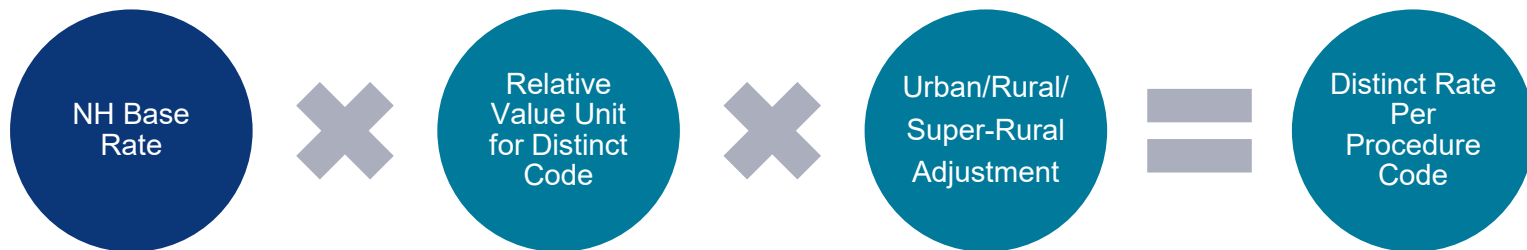
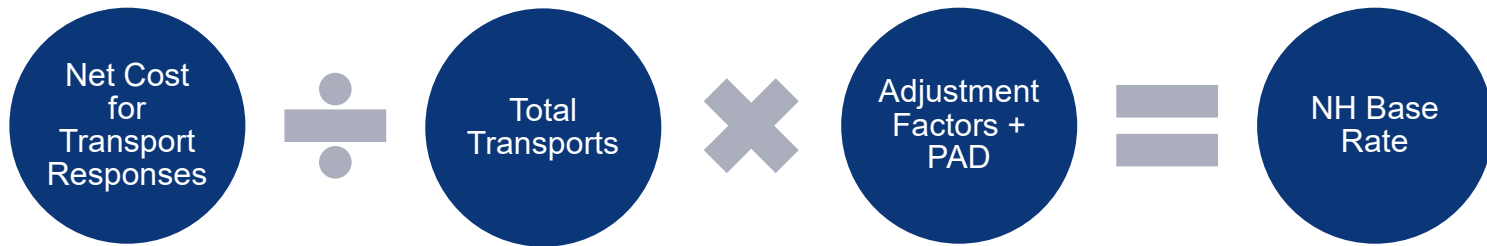
- A0998 - Treat, No Transport;
- A0425 - Mileage

Cost Centers Included:

- Personnel Cost for Ambulance Transports
 - Direct Personnel
 - Indirect Personnel
- Non-Personnel Cost for Ambulance Transports
 - Direct Equipment, Consumables and Supplies
 - Indirect Equipment, Consumables and Supplies and Other Costs



Transport Codes - Formula



Methodology Summary – A0998

Treat No Transport – Code A0998

Cost Centers Included:

- Personnel Cost for Treat in Place Services
 - Direct Personnel
 - Indirect Personnel
- Non-Personnel Cost for Treat in Place Services
 - Direct Equipment, Consumables and Supplies
 - Indirect Equipment, Consumables and Supplies and Other Costs

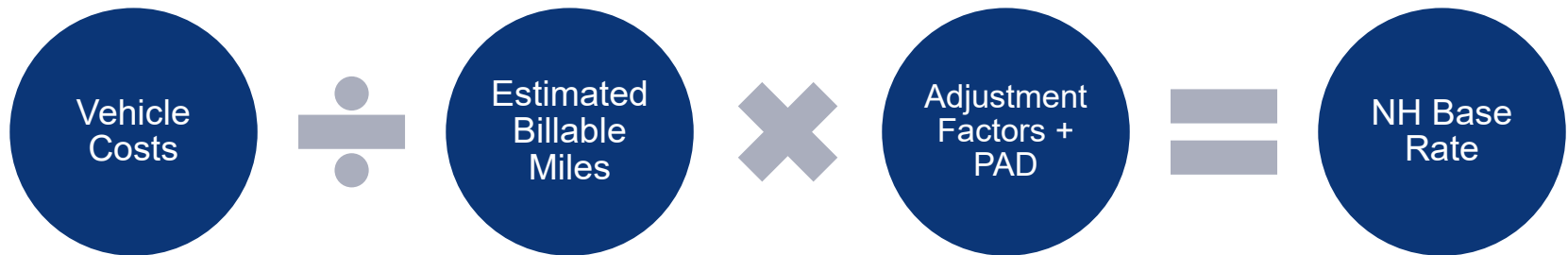


Methodology Summary – Mileage

A0425 - Mileage

Cost Centers Included:

- Vehicle Costs for transport services; excluding treat no transport



Recommended Rates

Key Points

- Recommended Rates are what commercial payers would pay at minimum
- All recommended rates and processes are subject to NH Legislative Approval
- Full details about methodology will be included in the final report
- Rates are subject to final approval



Final Distinct Rate Recommendations

NH Reimbursement Rate Recommendations				
Procedure Code	Description	Urban	Rural	Super Rural
A0426	Advanced Life Support, Level 1 (ALS1), Non-emergency	\$691.24	\$698.02	\$855.77
A0427	Advanced Life Support, Level 1 (ALS1), Emergency	\$1,094.46	\$1,105.19	\$1,354.97
A0428	Basic Life Support (BLS), Non-emergency	\$576.03	\$581.68	\$713.14
A0429	Basic Life Support (BLS), Emergency	\$921.65	\$930.69	\$1,141.03
A0432	Paramedic Intercept, Volunteer Ambulance Co	\$1,008.06	\$1,017.94	\$1,248.00
A0433	Advanced Life Support, Level 2 (ALS2)	\$1,584.09	\$1,599.62	\$1,961.14
A0434	Specialty Care Transport (SCT)	\$1,872.11	\$1,890.46	\$2,317.71
A0998 (BLS)	Response and Treatment, no transport	\$414.07	\$418.13	\$512.63
A0998 (ALS 1)	Response and Treatment, no transport	\$491.71	\$496.53	\$608.75
A0998 (ALS 2)	Response and Treatment, no transport	\$711.69	\$718.67	\$881.09
A0425	Mileage	\$19.14	\$19.33	\$28.99

- ✓ Each procedure code takes calculated base rate and multiplies by CMS Geographic adjustment factor
- ✓ Calculated rates for Urban, Rural, Super Rural for each procedure code combination



Recommended NH Rates Relative to NH Medicare

Procedure Type	% of Medicare Rate
Transport	202%
Mileage	209%
Treat, No Transport	N/A



Acknowledgements

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- ✓ Thanks to Licensed EMS Units for their data responses
- ✓ Thanks to Lewis & Ellis for assisting in actuarial calculations





Questions/Comments



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Solutions that Matter