



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
January 29, 2020

OSCA to Officially Support Medicaid Rule to Add Conditions for Acupuncture Coverage

(Columbus, OH) The Ohio State Chiropractic Association will be submitting comment on the proposed amendments to Ohio Administrative Code rule 5160-8-51, Acupuncture Service. The rule proposed would add coverage of acupuncture services to treat the following additional conditions: (iii) cervical (neck) pain, (iv) osteoarthritis of the hip, (v) osteoarthritis of the knee; (vi) nausea or vomiting related to pregnancy or chemotherapy (only in an outpatient setting); and (vii) acute post-operative pain (only in an inpatient hospital setting). Additionally, language is being added to the rule to describe how acupuncture services are paid for when rendered by a non-physician acupuncture provider in a hospital setting.

The OSCA believes that this is the right step forward, as we continually push for Chiropractic Services, including all the services permitted in scope in Ohio, to be reimbursed by Medicaid. If accepted, the department hopes that this rule will be implemented by July 1, 2020.

OSCA Executive Director, Nicholas Strata, said of the rule, “The OSCA is supportive of this expansion of coverage for chiropractors who perform acupuncture services, as it is in line with our overall goal of reimbursement for the full scope of services DCs may provide under Ohio law. We will continue to work with the Ohio Department of Medicaid to ensure that patients have access to conservative care and DCs are reimbursed for their full scope of practice for their services.”

In 2018, the Ohio Department of Medicaid established a coverage and payment policy to allow acupuncturists and chiropractors to be paid for acupuncture services rendered to treat low back pain and migraine. The OSCA will continue to work with the department in support of the expansion of coverage for conservative care, including the OSCA House Bill 102, which would cover chiropractic exams for Medicaid patients.

The Ohio State Chiropractic Association is the largest association for Doctors of Chiropractic in Ohio, working to ensure Ohio chiropractic physicians are the preferred choice for neuromusculoskeletal care and educating the general public and policymakers that chiropractic should be the first approach in conservative treatment.

For any questions, please contact the OSCA Office at osca@oscachiro.org.