

# SPECIAL eBULLETIN

FOR PROFESSIONAL PROVIDERS

APRIL 4, 2016

## HIGHMARK TO UPDATE PAYMENT DIFFERENTIAL ON APRIL 25, 2016

On April 25, 2016, Highmark Blue Shield's site-of-service payment differential will be updated based on the 2016 Medicare Physician Fee Schedule.\* The updates to Highmark's fees for professional services performed in a facility setting will account for changes Medicare makes to the payment differential for services performed in a facility, compared to services performed in a non-facility setting.

**As expected, the Medicare differential has increased or decreased for some services in 2016.** And because Highmark applies this differential when calculating UCR and Premier Blue Shield allowances, Highmark's fees for professional services provided in a facility setting may experience an increase or a decrease.

You can always find fee information on NaviNet®. The fee changes noted above will be viewable on April 25, 2016. Once the adjustments are in effect (on April 25, 2016), you can use the following methods to view them:

- **NaviNet**  
Hover on *Allowance* and then select *Allowance Inquiry* to determine pricing for specific procedure codes by plan or product type.
- **NaviNet**  
Hover on *Allowance* and then select *Frequently Billed Codes*. This function initiates a report request that allows you to more quickly retrieve the most frequently billed codes based on the specialty represented by the selected billing provider and plan.
- **NaviNet's Provider Resource Center**  
Download the full Premier Blue Shield fee schedule by clicking *Administrative Reference Materials* and then selecting *Fee Schedule Information*.

Please share this information with your billing staff and/or vendor. If your practice doesn't have NaviNet access, please visit the NaviNet website at [navinet.net](http://navinet.net).

\*Highmark selects the Medicare Physician Fee Schedule available at the point in time necessary for calculating fees in a timely manner.

