

**Carta Trámite**

16 de enero de 2026

A: Todos los Hospitales Contratados por First Medical Health Plan, Inc. para el Plan Vital

**Re: Aspectos destacados de la implementación de APR DRG**

Estimado(a) Proveedor(a):

Reciba un cordial saludo de parte de First Medical Health Plan, Inc. (FMHP).

Adjunto a este comunicado encontrará la carta “**APR DRG Implementation Highlights**” de la Administración de Seguros de Salud de Puerto Rico (ASES).

A través de este comunicado, la ASES aclara aspectos relacionados con la implementación de la metodología *All Patient Refined Diagnostic Related Groups* (APR-DRG), vigente a partir del 1 de enero de 2026.

A continuación, se presentan los puntos aclarados en el comunicado:

- **Aspectos relacionados con las reclamaciones de recién nacidos**
- **Aspectos relacionados con la fecha de implementación y el criterio de corte de APR-DRG para admisiones hospitalarias (inpatient)**
- **Aspectos relacionados con el Manejo de Utilización (Utilization Management)**

Para detalles específicos sobre la información provista por la ASES, le exhortamos a leer detenidamente el comunicado “**APR DRG Implementation Highlights**” de la Administración de Seguros de Salud de Puerto Rico (ASES).

Si usted tiene alguna pregunta relacionada a este comunicado y/o necesita información adicional, siéntase en la libertad de comunicarse con nuestro Centro de Servicio al Proveedor al número libre de cargos 1-844-347-7802 de lunes a viernes de 7:00 a.m. a 7:00 p.m. También, puede acceder a [www.firstmedicalvital.com](http://www.firstmedicalvital.com).

Cordialmente,

Departamento de Cumplimiento  
First Medical Health Plan, Inc.



ADMINISTRACIÓN DE  
SEGUROS DE SALUD

**ASES**

GOBIERNO DE PUERTO RICO

**January 15, 2026**

**To: Managed Care Organizations (MCOs) and Acute Care (STAC) Hospitals**

**RE: APR DRG Implementation Highlights**

Greetings from the Puerto Rico Health Insurance Administration (ASES, for its Spanish acronym). As the All Patient Refined Diagnostic Related Group (APR DRG) Methodology became in effect on January 1, 2026, several questions were addressed that need clarification.

#### **Newborn Claims**

The APR DRG grouper software currently groups cases according to diagnoses and procedures and does not necessarily consider the type of admission in the cases of mothers and newborns. Therefore, the use of a separate Medicaid ID number for the infant does not affect the pooling for DRG APR assignment and payment.


However, it is important that the hospital bill separately the services for the mother and for the newborn. If both services are included in a single claim, the system only assigns a single APR-DRG, which directly impacts the correct identification and payment of the newborn episode. Note that when billing for the newborn, the weight must be included in order to calculate the DRG payment.

#### **APR DRG Implementation Date Cut-Off for Inpatient Claims**

As stated in the *Overview* section of the *ASES Puerto Rico APR DRG Reimbursement Guide* "For dates of discharge on and after January 1, 2026, managed care organizations (MCOs) will group and price claims using the All-Patient Refined Diagnosis Related Group (APR DRG) for most inpatient hospital claims." Therefore, an inpatient claim, even if the admission date was before January 1, 2026, will be paid under APR DRG methodology.

#### **Utilization Management**

Utilization reviews will be conducted **retrospectively post payment**. Concurrent reviews will not be required. ASES is currently working with establishing uniform guidelines to be applied by the MCOs for inpatient claims of Plan Vital's beneficiaries.

  
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Executive Director