

Part III. NHI Chronicles

Bureau of National Health Insurance Event Calendar, 2009

Date	Event Summary
Jan. 7	One new item to examine the index of the abnormal refusal of payment and processing for profile analysis of the global budget of Chinese medicine is announced and effective as of February 1, 2009 (month and year of expenses).
Jan. 12	The reimbursement limit of self-advanced medical expenses outside the implementation region of the national health insurance for January, February and March 2009 is announced.
Jan. 13	One new item to examine the index of the abnormal refusal of payment and processing for profile analysis of the global budget of dentistry is announced and effective as of March 1, 2009 (month and year of expenses).
Jan. 21	“Pilot Project for the Budget Allocation of General Department with the Global Budget of Year 2009 Chinese Medicine Outpatient Medical Expenses Reimbursement” is announced.
Jan. 23	The “Organic Act for Bureau of National Health Insurance, Department of Health, Executive Yuan” is promulgated.
Feb. 12	Part of the National Health Insurance Medical Expenses (global budgets of hospital, western medicine of primary care, dentistry and Chinese medicine) Examination Notice” is amended and effective as of March 1, 2009.
Mar. 17	Additions of “Annotations of Supplemental Reports” and remark explanations of “List of the Service Points of Outpatient Medical Expenses”, “List of the Service Points of Inpatient Medical Expenses” and “List of the Medical Service Points of Contracted pharmacies” are announced.
April 9	The amendment of “Reform Proposal of Year 2009 Dentistry Outpatient Medical Expenses Reimbursement with Global Budget for the Inadequate Resources Area” is announced.
Apr. 13	The reimbursement limit of self-advanced medical expenses outside the implementation region of the national health insurance for April, May and June 2009 is announced.

Apr. 29	Paragraph 5 of “Operation Directions for Issuing the National Health Insurance Certificates” is amended and effective as of May 1, 2009.
Apr. 30	The amendment of “Reform Proposal for the Reimbursement of National Health Insurance for Diabetes” is announced and effective as of June 1, 2009.
Apr. 30	The following are announced : 1. Part IX “Diagnosis Relevant Groups of the National Health Insurance” of “National Health Insurance Medical Care Expenses Reimbursement Standards” is newly added. The year of information adopted by relevant parameters of such chapter is subject to general rules of reimbursement. Nevertheless, during the effective period of DRG in 2009, results of calculating the 2008 medical service points are adopted, which will be applicable until the December 2010. This new addition is effective as of September 1, 2009. 2. Chapter 2 of Part II Western Medicine, Part III Dentistry and Part V Home Nursing Care and Psychotic Community rehabilitation of “National Health Insurance Medical Care Expenses Reimbursement Standards” are amended and effective as of June 1, 2009.
May 11	This Bureau holds the press conference of “Converge warmth and care with love -- New measures of the national health insurance to support disadvantage groups”, i.e. announcement of two implementations: “Appropriate part of the increased income derived from the tobacco health and welfare surcharge to subsidize the copayment of the near-poor household” and “Strive for the Public Welfare Lottery repayment of the Ministry of Finance to subsidize those who bear the annual copayment of hospitalization over NT\$30,000 and the outstanding premiums of the disadvantage groups”.
May 18	Part IX “Diagnosis Relevant Groups of the National Health Insurance” of “National Health Insurance Medical Care Expenses Reimbursement Standards” is newly added to amend the application formats of “General Application for the Hospitalization Medical Service Points”, “List of the Hospitalization Medical Service Points” and “List of Physician Orders of the Hospitalization Medical Service” effective as of September 2009 (month and year of expenses).
Jun. 23	“Regulations for the Bureau of National Health Insurance to Subsidize the Copayment of Beneficiary by Tobacco Health and Welfare Surcharge” is prescribed and retroactively effective as of June 1, 2009.
Jun. 24	The amendment of “Media Application Format and Explanations to the General Application for the Outpatient Medical Service Points”, “Media Application Format and Explanations to the List of the Outpatient Medical Service Points” and “Media Application Format and Explanations to the List of Physician Orders of the Outpatient Medical Service” are announced and effective as of September 2009 (month and year of expenses).

Jul. 9	“Quality Assurance Proposal for the Global Budget System of the Outpatient Dialysis of the National Health Insurance” is amended, and the satisfaction survey of the outpatient dialysis is conducted once a year since 2009.
Jul. 16	“Guidelines of the 6th Annual Price Adjustment for National Health Insurance Reimbursed Drugs” is announced.
Jul. 23	The amendment of “Reform Proposal of Year 2009 Western Medicine of Primary Care of Outpatient Medical Expenses Reimbursement with Global Budget for the Inadequate Resources Area” is announced.
Jul. 23	The amendment of “Proposal for Year 2009 Enhancement of the Health Insurance Medical Services for the Remote Areas” is announced.
Jul. 24	The amendment of the pilot project for “Respirator-Dependent Patients of the National Health Insurance with Integrated Care by Prospective Payment System” is announced and effective as of January 2010 (month and year of expenses).
Aug. 18	The amendment of “Notice of the National Health Insurance Medical Operation for the Morakot Victims” is announced, which requires those who receive treatment in non-affected areas to fill in the referral sheet.
Aug. 20	To ease the burden of Morakot victims for the premium of the national health insurance, some adjustments are made in favor of the people, the press release of “All insured and his/her dependants who received the government's financial aids for death, missing, severe injury or re-location allowances due to the Typhoon Morakot disaster are qualified for the exemption from premium contribution for five months (August to December 2009)” is issued accordingly.
Aug. 21	“Assistance Proposal for the Outstanding National Health Insurance Premiums of Morakot Victims” is announced.
Aug. 24	The amendment of “Guidelines of the 6th Annual Price Adjustment for National Health Insurance Reimbursed Drugs” is announced. The new reimbursement price of the national health insurance will be effective as of October 1, 2009.
Aug. 26	The original effective date of “Diagnosis Relevant Groups of the National Health Insurance” is postponed from September 1, 2009 to January 1, 2010. Moreover, Points 7 and 8 of Chapter 1 General Provisions of Reimbursement of Tw-DRGs, Part IX “Diagnosis Relevant Groups of the National Health Insurance” of “National Health Insurance Medical Care Expenses Reimbursement Standards” are amended and effective as of January 1, 2010.

Aug. 28	The amendment of“ Notice of the National Health Insurance Medical Operation for the Morakot Victims” is announced.
Sep. 10	Dr. Shou-Hsia Cheng, former deputy minister of the Department of Health, succeeds to president of this Bureau effective as of September 10, 2009.
Sep. 11	The following are announced pursuant to Subparagraphs 1, 3 and 5, Paragraph 2, Article 70-1 of the Enforcement Rules of the National Health Insurance Act and effective as of October 1, 2009 : <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. If the insured are qualified as the insured under the public official insurance or the servicemen insurance, their insured payroll-related amounts are calculated as the insured’s total amount of compensation (salary) multiplied by 93.52%. 2. The average premium of Categories 4 and 5 of the insured is NT\$1,376. 3. As for persons in charge of a business who hire fewer than five insured, independently practicing professionals and specialized technicians, or the insured in Category 1 who are self-employed business owners, their insured payroll-related amounts shall be no less than NT\$34,800 or the highest insured payroll-related amount applied to their employees.
Sep. 17	“Proposal for Year 2009 NHI Dentistry Outpatient Global Budget Points in Excess of the Medical Utilization Target Value of certain Standard Regions and Reserve Mechanism”(including the calculation examples) and the amendment proposal of“ Regulations for the Establishment of the Reimbursement Committee of the Bureau of the National Health Insurance for the Global Budget of Dentistry” is announced.
Sep. 23	Attached Tables 7.9.1 and 7.9.2 Demand Table of Medical Items, Chapter 9, Part VII Case Payment of “National Health Insurance Medical Care Expenses Reimbursement Standards” is amended and retroactively effective as of September 1, 2009.
Sep. 24	“Construction of the Integrated Care Mode and the Gradual Integration Plan of Medical System” is announced and effective as of December 1, 2009.
Oct. 1	The new drug price will be effective as of October 1, 2009. The number of items of adjusted drugs amounts to circa 7,600.
Oct. 1	In response to the medical demand of the Morakot victims, “Regulation for Premium Subsidy and Medical Assistance of the National Health Insurance for the Morakot Victims” and “Notice of the National Health Insurance Medical Operation for the Morakot Victims” are announced.

Oct. 13	Section 6 General Provisions of Dispensing and Section 8 Hospice Inpatient Treatment Item, Chapter 1 Basic Treatment, Part II Western Medicine, and Chapter 1 General Rules of Home Nursing Care of Part V, of “National Health Insurance Medical Care Expenses Reimbursement Standards” are amended. Except that Section 8 Hospice Inpatient Treatment Item, Chapter 1 Basic Treatment, Part II Western Medicine, is retroactively effective as of September 1, 2009, the remainder will be effective as of November 1, 2009.
Oct. 13	“Proposal for Promoting Inpatient Nursing Care Quality” is announced, as well as the applicable subjects, who are at the home nursing care stage within the reimbursement range, of reimbursement standards of the pilot project for “Respirator-Dependent Patients of the National Health Insurance with Integrated Care by Prospective Payment System” and the limitation of the physician qualification of “Pilot Project of the Enhancement Therapy for Chronic Hepatitis Types B and C ”are amended. Except that “Proposal for Promoting Inpatient Nursing Care Quality” is retroactively effective as of January 1, 2009, the remainder will be effective as of November 1, 2009.
Oct. 19	Items of “Information Disclosure of the Care Quality Negotiation for Global Budget” have been discussed by the reimbursement committees of all departments under global budget for the second time. Twelve index items are newly added in 2009, the index explanation and statistics information of which have been completed and available to be checked by the public on the internet.
Nov. 5	The amendment of the pilot project for “Respirator-Dependent Patients of the National Health Insurance with Integrated Care by Prospective Payment System” is announced and effective as of January 2009 (month and year of expenses).
Nov. 10	The “Organic Act for Bureau of National Health Insurance, Department of Health, Executive Yuan” is announced and effective as of January 1, 2010.
Nov. 12	“Operation Directions for Issuing the National Health Insurance Certificates” is partially amended and effective as of January 1, 2010.
Nov. 16	The title of “Regulations for the Bureau of National Health Insurance to Assist Agencies to Subsidize the Beneficiary for Copayment” is modified as “Regulations for the Bureau of National Health Insurance, Department of Health, Executive Yuan, to Assist Agencies to Subsidize the Beneficiary for Copayment”. Moreover, Points 1 and 6 of such Regulation are amended and effective as of January 1, 2010.
Nov. 16	From August 18 to 21, 2009, the subjects of survey were people above the age of 20 in Taiwan. The results of the “Survey of the National Health Insurance” indicated that 82.9% remained positive toward the National Health Insurance.

Nov. 20	“Departmental Regulations for Bureau of National Health Insurance, Department of Health, Executive Yuan” and “Organization Chart for Bureau of National Health Insurance, Department of Health, Executive Yuan” are promulgated.
Nov. 30	Amendments on Articles 8 and 9 of “Regulations for Installment Payment of NHI Insurance Premium and Overdue Fine” are announced.
Dec. 3	In line with the organizational change of this Bureau, amendments of all pilot projects (including the medical reimbursement improvement proposal) are announced and effective as of January 1, 2010.
Dec. 17	“Regulations for the Beneficiary to Apply for the Subsidy from Tobacco Health and Welfare Surcharge for the Copayment” is announced with immediate effect.
Dec. 17	Chapters 1 and 2 of Part II Western Medicine, Part IV Chinese Medicine and Part IX Diagnosis Relevant Groups of the National Health Insurance of “National Health Insurance Medical Care Expenses Reimbursement Standards” are amended and effective as of January 1, 2010.
Dec. 17	“Reform Proposal for the Medical Reimbursement of Schizophrenia,”“Chinese Medicine Outpatient Care Project for the Sequelae of Cerebrovascular Disease”are announced, as well as “Paramedic Pilot Project of Chinese Medicine for Inpatients of Western Medicine with Cerebrovascular Disease and Tumor after Surgery, Chemotherapy and Radiation Therapy,”“Care Pilot Project of Chinese Medicine High-Quality Outpatient for Children with Cerebral Palsy”, “Care Pilot Project of Chinese Medicine High-Quality Outpatient for Children with Asthma Remission”, “Pilot Project for Perinatal Reimbursement System Per Person of the National Health Insurance”, “Pilot Project for Year 2010 NHI Dentistry Outpatient Medical Expenses Reimbursement with Global Budge pertaining to the Medical Services of Special Service Items” and “Proposal for Promoting Inpatient Nursing Care Quality” are amended. Except that “Pilot Project for Perinatal Reimbursement System Per Person of the National Health Insurance” is retroactively effective as of December 1, 2009, the remainder will be effective as of January 1, 2010.
Dec. 21	The pilot project for “Behavior Program of the High User of Outpatient Services - Medical Home Nursing Care” is announced.
Dec. 21	“The Integrated Care Project of the National Health Insurance Family Physicians” is amended.
Dec. 23	“Implementation Proposal for the Quality Assurance Reserve of Year 2010 Chinese Medicine Outpatient with Global Budget” is announced.
Dec. 23	“Pilot Project for the Budget Allocation of General Department with Global Budge of Year 2010 Chinese Medicine Outpatient” is announced.

Dec. 24	By the order of Chien-Bao-Yi-Tze-0980044220,“Implementation Proposal for the Quality Assurance Reserve of Year 2010 Dentistry Outpatient with Global Budget” is announced.
Dec. 25	“Reform Proposal for the Inadequate Medical Resources Area of Year 2010 Western Medicine of Primary Care with Global Budget” is announced.
Dec. 28	“Reform Proposal for the Inadequate Medical Resources Area of Year 2010 Dentistry Outpatient with Global Budget” is announced.
Dec. 28	“Reform Proposal for the Inadequate Medical Resources Area of Year 2010 Chinese Medicine Outpatient with Global Budget” is announced.
Dec. 29	“National Health Insurance Medical Care Expenses Reimbursement Standards” is amended and effective as of January 1, 2010.