

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES**SUBJECT:** CHARGING AND COLLECTING REQUIREMENTS FOR
MEDICAL CARE SERVICES RENDERED**POLICY NO. 520**

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- PURPOSE::** To establish requirements for charging and collecting for medical care services rendered.
- POLICY::** Each Departmental facility shall charge and pursue collection for all health care services provided at Departmentally established rates in accordance with the provisions of Departmental policies, the County's reduced- cost health care programs (e.g., Ability-To-Pay Plan (ATP), Outpatient Reduced-Cost Simplified Application (ORSA), Pre- Payment Program) and other programs (e.g., Medi-Cal, Medicare, Short-Doyle, California Children's Services, Child Health and Disability Prevention, Alcohol and Drug, etc.).
- GUIDE::** Charges assessed for health care services provided shall be pursued for collection from all available third-party payers, other granting agencies (e.g., Queens Care, Ryan White, etc.) and patients within existing legal, regulatory, contractual, and policy constraints.
- EXCEPTIONS::** Exceptions to this Policy are only as provided in the following Departmental Policies numbers 521 through 525.
- Policy No. 521 - DHS Policy Regarding Charges for Public Health Services
 - Policy No. 522 - Health Care Services to Employees, Volunteers, and Students
 - Policy No. 523 - Costs of Health Care Services to Wards of the Juvenile Court Supervised by the Department of Probation
 - Policy No. 524 - Costs of Health Care Services to Adults in Custody of Law Enforcement Agencies
 - Policy No. 525 - Costs of Health Care Services to Provide Evidence for Criminal Proceedings
- DEFINITIONS::** These definitions are applicable to Policies numbers 520 through 525.
- Third Party Payers means Federal and State funded programs, insurance companies, health plans, employers (Worker's Compensation), third party tortfeasors, etc., which have a contractual or legal obligation to pay for an

individual's medical services.

Other Granting Agency means Governmentally administered or other agencies which reimburse the County, through grant or contract, for health care services provided by the Department to the agency's beneficiaries.

Patient means the patient and responsible relatives, defined as spouse and parents, if the patient is a minor child.

**CROSS
REFERENCES::**

DHS Policy Nos.:

510, "Rates"

516, "Non-Emergency Medical Care Services Requirements - Los Angeles County Patients"

516.1, "Non-Emergency Medical Care Services Requirements-Out-of-County and Out-of-Country/Foreign Visitor and Non-Immigrant Persons (FV/NP)"

521, "DHS Policy Regarding Charging for Public Health Services"

522, "Health Care Services to Employees, Volunteers, and Students"

523, "Costs of Health Care Services to Wards of the Juvenile Court Supervised by the Department of Probation"

524, "Costs of Health Care Services for Adult Patients in Custody of Law Enforcement Agencies"

525, "Costs of Health Care Services to Provide Evidence for Criminal Proceedings"

Financial Practice Policies:

520.15 "Ability-to-Pay Verification Guidelines"

EFFECTIVE DATE: Jul 01, 2004

SUPERCEDES: 11/1/89

APPROVED: Signature on File
