

(2) "Carrier" means:

- (i) an insurer;
- (ii) a nonprofit health service plan;
- (iii) a health maintenance organization;
- (iv) a dental plan organization; or

(v) any other person that provides health benefit plans subject to regulation by the State.

(3) "Health care practitioner" means an individual who is licensed, certified, or otherwise authorized under the Health Occupations Article to provide health care services.

(b) A carrier may not reimburse a health care practitioner in an amount less than the sum or rate negotiated in the carrier's provider contract with the health care practitioner.

(c) This section does not prohibit a carrier from providing bonuses or other incentive-based compensation to a health care practitioner if the bonus or other incentive-based compensation:

(1) complies with the provisions of § 19-705.1 of the Health - General Article;

(2) promotes the delivery of medically appropriate care to an enrollee; and

(3) except for the provision of preventive health care services, is not based on the cost, or number of medical services provided, proposed, or recommended by the health care practitioner without reference to the medical appropriateness or necessity of the services.

(d) (1) A carrier shall provide a health care practitioner with a ~~written~~ copy of:

(i) a schedule of applicable fees for up to the [twenty] FIFTY most common services billed by a health care practitioner in that specialty;

(ii) a description of the coding guidelines used by the carrier that are applicable to the services billed by a health care practitioner in that specialty; ~~and~~