

amount of the plan's annual deductible.

(b) *Countable expenses.* An MA organization offering an MA MSA plan must count toward the annual deductible at least all amounts that would be paid for the particular service under original Medicare, including amounts that would be paid by the enrollee as deductibles or coinsurance.

(c) *Services after the deductible.* For services received by the enrollee after the annual deductible is satisfied, an MA organization offering an MA MSA plan must pay, at a minimum, the lesser of the following amounts:

(1) 100 percent of the expense of the services.

(2) 100 percent of the amounts that would have been paid for the services under original Medicare, including amounts that would be paid by the enrollee as deductibles and coinsurance.

(d) *Annual deductible.* The annual deductible for an MA MSA plan—

(1) For contract year 1999, may not exceed \$6,000; and

(2) For subsequent contract years may not exceed the deductible for the preceding contract year, increased by the national per capita growth percentage determined under § 422.306(a)(2).

[63 FR 35077, June 26, 1998, as amended at 70 FR 4720, Jan. 28, 2005; 70 FR 52026, Sept. 1, 2005]

§ 422.104 Special rules on supplemental benefits for MA MSA plans.

(a) An MA organization offering an MA MSA plan may not provide supplemental benefits that cover expenses that count towards the deductible specified in § 422.103(d).

(b) In applying the limitation of paragraph (a) of this section, the following kinds of policies are not considered as covering the deductible:

(1) A policy that provides coverage (whether through insurance or otherwise) for accidents, disability, dental care, vision care, or long-term care.

(2) A policy of insurance in which substantially all of the coverage relates to liabilities incurred under workers' compensation laws, tort liabilities, liabilities relating to use or ownership of property, and any other similar liabilities that CMS may specify by regulation.

(3) A policy of insurance that provides coverage for a specified disease or illness or pays a fixed amount per day (or other period) of hospitalization.

§ 422.105 Special rules for self-referral and point of service option.

(a) *Self-referral.* When an MA plan member receives an item or service of the plan that is covered upon referral or pre-authorization from a contracted provider of that plan, the member cannot be financially liable for more than the normal in-plan cost sharing, if the member correctly identified himself or herself as a member of that plan to the contracted provider before receiving the covered item or service, unless the contracted provider can show that the enrollee was notified prior to receiving the item or service that the item or service is covered only if further action is taken by the enrollee.

(b) *Point of service option.* As a general rule, a POS benefit is an option that an MA organization may offer in an MA coordinated care plan to provide enrollees with additional choice in obtaining specified health care services. The organization may offer a POS option—

(1) Before January 1, 2006, under a coordinated care plan as an additional benefit as described in section 1854(f)(1)(A) of the Act;

(2) Under a coordinated care plan as a mandatory supplemental benefit as described in § 422.102(a); or

(3) Under a coordinated care plan as an optional supplemental benefit as described in § 422.102(b).

(4) An MA regional plan or local MA PPO is permitted to offer a POS-LIKE benefit as described in paragraphs (b)(2) or (b)(3) of this section as a supplemental benefit. An MA regional plan or local MA PPO may offer a POS-LIKE option as a supplemental benefit where cost sharing for out-of-network services is reduced, in a limited manner, for services obtained from out-of-network providers. Offering a POS-LIKE supplemental benefit does not affect the MA regional plan's or local MA PPO's responsibility to provide reimbursement for all covered benefits, regardless of whether those benefits are provided within the network of contracted providers.