



**Keith A. Perry M.D.**  
**Board Certified Pain Specialist**

14 Cedar Swamp Rd, Smithfield RI 02917  
Phone 401.231.0060 Fax 401.231.0064

May 7, 2024

Keith Perry, M.D.  
Precision Pain Treatment Clinic, LLC  
14 Cedar Swamp Road  
Smithfield, RI 02917

**BILL 2024-H 8072**

I have been practicing in Rhode Island since 1990 since finishing my residency and fellowship. First in both anesthesia and pain medicine, and for the last 10 years as a solo pain practitioner. I became aware of the inequitable reimbursement between this state and surrounding states. If for anesthesia services from Rhode Island based medical insurances, we would have been reimbursed around \$250-300 for a procedure. If a patient had the same level of care, the reimbursement was around \$850 from Connecticut or Massachusetts based medical insurances. This practice ended after a couple of years, when regulations allowed out-of-state insurances to only reimburse at Rhode Island rates.

Our reimbursement in this state has increased very little. Blue Cross Blue Shield of RI only reimburses 10% above Medicare rates, which is markedly lower than other states. This is compounded by the ever-increasing cost of supplies. This has become particularly onerous since the pandemic. The cost of all of our supplies have increased, some 50% to more than 100% of pre-pandemic levels. Wage scales have increased, as has the cost of benefits.

It is no wonder there is an exodus of physicians from Rhode Island.

It is time that meaning reimbursement increases are made.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Keith Perry", written over a horizontal line.

Keith Perry, M.D.  
Board Certified Pain Management Specialist