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Pregnancy Diagnosis with Aid Codes M9 and M0

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Effective October 12, 2015, pregnancy related Medi-Cal services will be designated as meeting the Affordable Care Act's minimum essential coverage (MEC) requirements by the Centers for Medicaid and Medicare Services (CMS).

Medically Necessary Pregnancy Related Services

Beneficiaries in aid codes M9 and M0 Pregnancy Related Medi-Cal are entitled to the full range of medically necessary pregnancy related care, postpartum care, and other conditions that might complicate the pregnancy.

The purpose of this provider bulletin is to inform providers of the change made by CMS and to ensure that all Medi-Cal providers understand the proper way to bill for the full range of medically necessary pregnancy related services that are available under Medi-Cal.

New Beneficiaries

After October 12, 2015, new beneficiaries with aid code M9 - Pregnant Women Citizen; Lawfully Present and aid code M0 - Pregnant Women; Undocumented, will have Medi-Cal pregnancy coverage that meets MEC requirements.

New beneficiaries with aid code M9 will no longer be eligible to enroll in both Medi-Cal and a Qualified Health Plan with advanced premium tax credits (APTC) through Covered California while they are pregnant. Changes are underway in California Healthcare Eligibility, Enrollment and Retention System (CALHEERS) to eliminate dual eligibility from occurring for new M9 beneficiaries based on the new federal determination. These changes are targeted to be in place in October 2015.

Medi-Cal providers must use a pregnancy diagnosis when billing for the full range of medically necessary pregnancy related care, postpartum care and other conditions that might complicate the pregnancy that are available under these aid codes. Using the pregnancy diagnosis when billing will assure that all pregnant women in aid codes M9 and M0 will receive all of the available Medi-Cal services to which they are entitled.

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