



State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
DIVISION OF MEDICAL ASSISTANCE AND HEALTH SERVICES

CHRISTINE TODD WHITMAN
Governor

WILLIAM WALDMAN
Commissioner

VELVET G. MILLER
Director

MEDICAID COMMUNICATION NO. 96-8

DATE: MARCH 5, 1996

TO: County Welfare Agency Directors

SUBJECT: Medicaid Eligibility for HMO Newborns

The Division of Medical Assistance and Health Services, in contracting with HMOs to provide Medicaid services, has required the plans to cover newborns whose mothers were enrolled on the date of delivery. The mother's plan is responsible for the hospital stay for the newborn following delivery and for subsequent services based on enrollment in the plan. Capitation payments are prorated to cover newborns from the date of birth.

In an effort to facilitate the enrollment and capitation of newborns, the Division of Medical Assistance and Health Services has instituted a procedure which will expedite the accretion of newborns to the Medicaid Eligibility File. This procedure is supported by Medicaid Communications 89-21 and 91-21 (copies attached) which address the automatic Medicaid eligibility for newborns whose mothers were Medicaid eligible at the time of the child's birth.

Effective immediately, the Office of Managed Health Care will fax weekly a Newborn Notification Form (copy attached) to the County Welfare Agencies. This form will provide the mother's Medicaid ID, the mother's name, and the name, date of birth and sex of the newborn. It is requested that the CWAs add the identified newborns to the Medicaid Eligibility File within 10 working days. Unless the CWA advises the Division otherwise, any newborn not accreted to the Medicaid Eligibility File within 10 working days will be added by the Office of Beneficiary and Provider Services using the next sequential person number. This procedure does not replace the use of the PA-1C for the notification of newborns and hospitals will continue to submit this form to the CWAs.

Any questions concerning this communication should be referred to the Office of Beneficiary and Provider Services at (609) 588-2556.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Velvet G. Miller".

Velvet G. Miller
Director

VGM:Hh
Attachments

c Karen Highsmith, Acting Director
Division of Family Development

Patricia Balasco-Barr, Director
Division of Youth and Family Services

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
Division of Medical Assistance and Health Services

Notification of Newborns

Acct. Coordinator:
Phone:

CWA Fax **County**

| Mother's HSP | Mother's Name | Newborn's Name | Newborn DOB | Sex | Comments |
|---------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|------------|-----------------|
|---------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|------------|-----------------|

The above newborns should be added to the Medicaid record within ten (10) days.

Report Date: February 27, 1996



State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
DIVISION OF MEDICAL ASSISTANCE AND HEALTH SERVICES
CN 712
TRENTON, NEW JERSEY 08625
(609) 588-2600

ALAN J. GIBBS
Commissioner

SAUL M. KILSTEIN
Director

MEDICAID COMMUNICATION NO: 91-21 **DATE:** September 17, 1991

TO: County Welfare Agency Directors
Medically Needy/New Jersey Care Units

SUBJECT: Expanded Eligibility For Newborns

As a result of changes mandated by the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1990, there has been a change in regulations covering Medicaid eligibility for newborn infants.

Previously, any child whose mother was Medicaid eligible at the time of the child's birth was also considered eligible for up to one year, as long as the mother remained eligible and as long as the child remained in the mother's home. Since most AFDC mothers remained eligible after delivering a child, and most Medically Needy, New Jersey Care and many Medicaid Special mothers did not, AFDC children essentially received a one-year guarantee of continued eligibility, while New Jersey Care and Medically Needy infants, and those born to certain Medicaid Special mothers, required that an application be submitted for continuing eligibility beyond the 60-day post-partum eligibility period. The significant difference in the new amendment is inclusion of language which confers continued eligibility to a newborn whose mother was eligible at the time of the delivery, or **would remain eligible if pregnant**. The addition of the phrase "...or would remain eligible if pregnant" provides for continued eligibility for all newborns who were excepted under the language of the previous regulations.

A pregnant woman, once she is found eligible for Medicaid, cannot be found ineligible as a result of any change in circumstances which occurred subsequent to that finding of initial eligibility. Therefore, once the pregnant woman is Medicaid eligible, it is assumed that, unless she dies or moves out of State, she remains eligible as long as she is pregnant. That assumption virtually guarantees her newborn eligibility of up to one year, without requiring that she submit an application, unless she relinquishes custody of the newborn. Of course, the providers have been asked to notify CWAs via a PA-1C of the child's birth, and they have also been advised to urge the mother to provide some formal notification of the child's birth. In the meantime, providers may submit claims under the mother's identification and person number, as in the past, for the 60-day period following the child's birth. By the time the extended eligibility period has elapsed, the CWA should have received notification and assigned the child his/her own person number, which providers may then begin to use for any Medicaid services provided for that child up to the first birthday. The regulatory amendments do not provide any time beyond the extended 60-day period for providers to bill under the mother's person number.

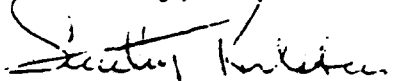
In September of 1989, Medicaid Communication No. 89-21 (copy attached) was issued to address the initial regulations which provided automatic eligibility for newborns. Generally, the instructions provided in this communication remain in force, with the exception of:

- 1) The requirement that Medically Needy, New Jersey Care and Medicaid Special mothers must apply on behalf of the newborn prior to the expiration of the 60-day post-partum period no longer applies. The mother is not obligated to act until the child is approaching his or her first birthday.
- 2) The requirement that the CWA must establish a termination date on the child's eligibility record which coincides with the end of the mother's post-partum eligibility is no longer in effect. The county is not required to leave the child's eligibility record open-ended, but may establish a termination date reflecting the full one-year eligibility period.

These changes do not affect or change the eligibility status of, or requirements imposed upon the mother of the newborn, insofar as establishing continued eligibility for herself or other family members.

Any questions concerning this communication should be referred to the field service staff assigned to your county.

Sincerely,



Saul M. Kilstein
Director

SMK:PSd
Attachment

cc: Marion E. Reitz, Director
Division of Economic Assistance

Nicholas R. Scalera, Director
Division of Youth and Family Services



State of New Jersey

**DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
DIVISION OF MEDICAL ASSISTANCE AND HEALTH SERVICES**

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES
QUAKERBRIDGE PLAZA—BUILDING 5 & 7 & 12
QUAKERBRIDGE ROAD
TRENTON, NEW JERSEY 08619

ADDRESS REPLY TO:
CN-712
TRENTON, NEW JERSEY 08625

MEDICAID COMMUNICATION NO: 89-21 Date: September 11, 1989

**TO: County Welfare Agency Directors
 Medically Needy/New Jersey Care Units**

SUBJECT: Medicaid Eligibility for Newborns

In response to numerous provider and recipient comments and concerns, as well as changes in federal requirements concerning the expeditious eligibility processing and payment of claims for services provided to newborns, the Division has modified its policies concerning the payments of such claims, as well as the process for adding these children to the Medicaid case.

As you are aware, expenses incurred for newborns in the hospital of delivery during the mother's confinement (except inpatient hospital expenses for Medically Needy newborns) are payable under the mother's Medicaid identification number and person number. However, in the past, when the mother was discharged from the hospital, eligibility could not be established for the child until the mother reported the birth to the CWA and provided the necessary documentation to add the child to the case.

In instances where the infant remained hospitalized after the mother's discharge, or needed to be transferred to another medical facility, payments to providers have been delayed if the mother was slow in reporting the child's birth or providing the necessary information. Occasionally, such payments are denied altogether if a critically ill child never left the hospital to join the household and the mother did not report the birth. This has created serious problems for neonatal providers and facilities which handle the most seriously ill newborns requiring the most costly, intensive care.

Under the provisions of federal law, any child who is born to a woman who is receiving Medicaid at the time of delivery is deemed to have applied for, and is eligible for Medicaid for up to one year from the date of birth, unless the mother ceases to be eligible or the child does not reside with her. Federal law also confers continued eligibility to the mother, regardless of income or resources, for 60 days after the birth of a child, even if she would have been otherwise ineligible. Such eligibility continues to the end of the month during which the 60th day occurs. Because the newborn child's eligibility is linked to the mother's at this point, and because the mother generally cannot be ineligible during that 60-day

extension, the child is eligible for a minimum of 60 days, so long as he or she resides with the mother. For purposes of this communication, a child is considered to be residing with the mother, even if he or she remains hospitalized, unless the mother has relinquished custody.

Newborns may now be added to the Medicaid record, even if the mother postpones or fails altogether to notify the CWA of the birth. Consequently, receipt of a PA-1C from a hospital will be sufficient to add a newborn child to the Medicaid eligibility record. Attached is a copy of the PA-1C, revised to include information on newborns. Upon receipt of such notification from a provider, the CWA must: 1) assign the child a person number; 2) accrete the child to the Medicaid Eligibility File effective with the date of the child's birth, and terminating with the end of the post-partum eligibility period, as defined for the mother. The Medicaid eligibility record may be established without a Social Security number for the infant; however, every effort should be made to have the mother obtain a SSN for the child as soon as possible. Depending upon the date of notification, a temporary card may be issued to include the newborn with any other individuals in the case. The mother should be advised to report the child's Medicaid number to all providers.

A Medically Needy or New Jersey Care pregnant woman, who is not otherwise eligible will lose eligibility after the 60-day post-partum period. In these cases, the newborn's eligibility will not extend beyond the mother's eligibility period unless she has contacted the agency, submitted an application on behalf of the child, and the child is found eligible beyond the post-partum period. However, even if the mother establishes continued eligibility for herself under another program, in no event can the child's eligibility continue beyond the end of the month during which the child's first birthday occurs, unless the mother applies separately to establish the child's eligibility.

Since eligibility for the post-partum period is limited to individuals who apply and are eligible to receive benefits upon the birth of the child, a woman who applies for retroactive Medicaid after the birth of a child, is not eligible for the 60-day post-partum continuation of Medicaid, nor is the child automatically eligible. If the mother is found eligible for Medicaid as a pregnant woman during the retroactive period, such eligibility cannot continue beyond the month of delivery. All applicable eligibility guidelines must have been met during the retroactive period. For Medically Needy cases, prospective eligibility for the child may be determined when the mother applies for retroactive benefits at the county agency. For New Jersey Care cases, because retroactive eligibility is determined at the Division, prospective eligibility for the child must be determined separately. However, the mother may only be eligible following the birth of the child if she meets the requirements of another eligibility category.

Any questions concerning this communication should be referred to the field service staff assigned to your county.

Sincerely,



Saul M. Kilstein
Director

SMK:PSd
Attachment

cc: Marion E. Reitz, Director
Division of Economic Assistance

William Waldman, Director
Division of Youth and Family Services

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
DIVISION OF MEDICAL ASSISTANCE AND HEALTH SERVICES
PUBLIC ASSISTANCE INQUIRY

Referral for: SSI New Jersey Care Medicaid Only AFDC Newborn (complete items 1,2,4,11a,15 on

TO: _____ FROM: _____
(SSA / DO)
(County Welfare Agency) _____ Hospital _____

Date: _____

1. Name: _____ Sex M F
(Last) (First) (Middle)
(For newborn referral, enter name and sex of parent.)

2. Social Security Account Number: _____

3. Permanent Home Address: _____ Telephone: _____

4. Marital Status: (Check one) Married Single Divorced Separated Widowed Unknown

5. Date of Admission: _____ Date of Birth: _____

6. Address From Which Admitted: _____ Telephone: _____

Diagnosis: _____

8. Prognosis: _____
(For SSI disability blindness and AFDC incapacity)

9. Referring Physician: _____ Telephone: _____

10. Spouse: Name: _____ Age: _____ Telephone: _____
Address: _____

11. Minor Children (First Names and Ages): _____

(a) Newborn Data: Name: _____ Date of Birth: _____ Sex M F
Mother's HSP (Medicaid) Case No.: _____

Next of Kin (If other than Spouse or Children): _____
Address: _____ Telephone: _____

Gross Monthly Income of Patient: _____ Source: _____

Gross Monthly Income of Family Members: _____

Hospital Insurance: Blue Cross I.D. No.: _____ Medicare H.I.C. No.: _____

Applicable to Newborn? Yes No

Other Carrier Name: _____ Policy No.: _____

Employer's Name: _____ Address: _____

What inquiries have been made regarding financial responsibility for the hospital bill?

What were the results?

Does patient, patient's authorized agent, or relatives know that an inquiry is being made for the previously checked program?

Yes No

Whereabouts:

Is client still in hospital? Yes No

If YES, anticipated address upon discharge:

If NO, date of discharge:

Home address if known:

Other Comments:

The above patient is being cared for in the hospital since _____ on a ward service or general service.

Date

in addition to professional and other personal services and I believe that such a patient may be eligible for the previously checked program.

Signature: _____ Title: _____ Date: _____

Signature of Patient or Relative: _____ Date: _____

PLEASE READ CAREFULLY BEFORE SIGNING

I understand that I must furnish certain information to the SSA/DO or the County Welfare Agency to establish eligibility and extent of need for Supplemental Security Income Benefits or public assistance, and that the appropriate agency will help to secure this information and verify it. I will supply complete and accurate information, within my knowledge, to representatives of the SSA/DO or the County Welfare Agency. I hereby authorize and direct my relatives, physician, hospital, employers, bankers, and any other person having information concerning the persons named above to furnish complete details to the appropriate agency investigating my application for such assistance. I understand that the information obtained will be used only in connection with the application for or receipt of assistance.

I further authorize the Social Security Administration to release benefit information and entitlement dates to the hospital whose name appears on the reverse of this form. I understand the hospital will only use this information for purposes of establishing my eligibility for Medicaid.

Name: _____ Relationship: _____ Date: _____

SIGNED BY PATIENT EXPLAIN WHY: _____

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
DEPT. OF HUMAN SERVICES
RECEIVED
MAR 15 1970
DIVISION OF MEDICAL ASSISTANCE AND HEALTH SERVICES

TO THE SSA/DO OR AGENCY INITIALLY RECEIVING THIS INQUIRY. WHEN IT IS NECESSARY TO REFER APPLICANT TO ANOTHER PUBLIC ASSISTANCE AGENCY, INCLUDE AT LEAST A COPY OF THIS PA-IC