



CBO DISPATCH

The “B” means BUSINESS

CBO Dispatch No.: NGA 18-010

Issue Date: December 31, 2018

New Medi-Cal Eligibility Response on Emergency/Pregnancy Aid Codes



Recently, Medi-Cal updated the eligibility response for beneficiaries with Emergency, Pregnancy, or Emergency/Pregnancy Medi-Cal aid codes. The new message includes instructions telling providers to use an indicator “FOR SPECIALTY MENTAL HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER SERVICES” when the client is pregnant. Below is an example of the new message.

Eligibility Message:
SUBSCRIBER LAST NAME: . EVC #: 056DN0NG4C. CNTY CODE: 19. PRMY AID CODE: M2. ELIGIBLE W/ SVCS LIMITED TO LTC, PREGNANCY AND EMERGENCIES. IF SUBSCRIBER IS PREGNANT OR POSTPARTUM, USE PREGNANCY DIAGNOSIS CODES ON CLAIMS FOR THE FULL RANGE OF MEDICALLY NECESSARY MEDI-CAL SERVICES INCLUDING MEDICAL AND DENTAL **FOR SPECIALTY MENTAL HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER SERVICES, USE A PREGNANCY INDICATOR.**

This new message is related to the Short-Doyle/Medi-Cal requirement to indicate on all claims when a client is pregnant *and* services are pregnancy-related. Please note that Medi-Cal programs for pregnant women can be limited in coverage to services related to the pregnancy or they can cover the full scope of services. For clients with Medi-Cal that is restricted (or limited) to pregnancy-related services, all claims for the client must include a Pregnancy Indicator when the client is pregnant and the services are related to the pregnancy or the claims will be denied. For clients who have full scope pregnancy-related Medi-Cal aid codes, the client need only be pregnant to include the Pregnancy Indicator on claims even if the service is not related to the pregnancy. The Integrated Behavioral Health Information System (IBHIS) adds a Pregnancy Indicator to claims whenever there is an entry in the Client Condition – Pregnancy form for the client covering the date of service. Submit or update client pregnancy information in IBHIS whenever the client is pregnant and has a pregnancy related Medi-Cal aid code. Contact your vendor for details on submitting client pregnancy information in your system so that it is reflected in IBHIS.

Sometimes, males are given aid codes that are restricted to pregnancy and/or emergency services. Do not use a Pregnancy Indicator for these clients. These clients only require the Emergency Indicator on claims when appropriate.

Remember, determine the annual liability for all clients with Emergency/Pregnancy Aid Codes using the Uniform Method of Determining the Ability to Pay (UMDAP) and, even when Medi-Cal only covers emergency and/or pregnancy-related services, the Medi-Cal guarantor must be included in the client’s Financial Eligibility.

WE’RE WORKING FOR YOU...

IBHIS providers, if you have any questions or need additional information, please use the following link create a HEAT Ticket using the HEAT app available on the LACDMH secure website: [DMH SSLVPN](#).



DOES NOT APPLY TO FEE-FOR-SERVICE PROVIDERS

