Mother/baby claims policy changes

•**PROPOSED POLICY:**

Effective with dates of service on or after _____, newborn services billed under the Mother's beneficiary ID number will be billed in the following manner;

Newborn services are considered procedure codes which specifically state "newborn" in the code description according to the *CPT*® manual. These services can be paid under the mother's beneficiary ID number for the first 45 days after the baby's date of birth. These services must be billed with a newborn diagnosis code in order to receive payment.

When billing newborn services for a newborn that does not have a beneficiary ID number, use "Newborn", "Baby Girl", or "Baby Boy" in the first name field and enter the last name. Use the newborn's date of birth and the mother's beneficiary ID number. The claim will suspend in the claims processing system for up to 45 days pending the fiscal agent's receipt of the newborn's beneficiary ID number from the eligibility system. If the newborn's ID number is received within 45 days, the claim will be processed using that number. If the newborn's ID number is not received within the 45 days, the claim will complete processing with the mother's ID number.

Services provided under code 99502 (Home Visit for newborn care and assessment) may be billed using either the mother's or newborn's current Medicaid number. If using the mother's Medicaid number, the claim form should also include the newborn's date of birth. If the newborn's name has not been determined, state "Baby Boy", "Baby Girl", or "Newborn" in the first name field and enter the newborn's last name.

•**RATIONALE FOR CHANGE:**

This policy is related to a finding from the KHPA OIG claims processing audit which discovered that services billed for newborn beneficiaries under the Mother's beneficiary ID number were not restricted to an age range consistent with the definition of a newborn. This allowed claims to process even when the age indicated on the claim was beyond what would be considered to be appropriate for newborn services.