



Policy Directive 2016-09-02

Title: Medicaid Newborn Eligibility

Date: 9/30/2016

From: Allison Miller, Family Medical Policy Manager

Program impacted: Family Medical

Effective 10/3/2016, when a request for coverage is received for a newborn within 31 days of the date of birth and the newborn is determined eligible for Medicaid, coverage will backdate to the date of birth. This eliminates the need to complete a separate Prior Medical determination in order to cover the month of birth. For coverage requested more than 31 days from the date of birth, a formal prior medical determination would be required. This aligns the Medicaid newborn policy with the existing policy for CHIP newborns.

Note: This policy directive is not related to Medicaid Deemed Newborns. A Medicaid Deemed Newborn is one who is given coverage solely on the basis of the mother receiving Medicaid in the month of birth. A Medicaid Deemed Newborn is given coverage back to the date of birth as long as coverage is requested by the end of the month in which the newborn turns one.

Newborn Eligibility Results in Medicaid:

Example 1: Baby born on 8/15/2016 to a non-recipient mom. Application filed on 9/6/16. A determination is completed for the application month of September. Baby's eligibility results in Medicaid for September. Because the application was filed within 31 days, Medicaid coverage will be approved to begin 8/15/16.

Example 2: Baby born on 8/15/2016 to a non-recipient mom. Application filed on 9/23/16. Because the application was NOT filed within 31 days, a prior medical determination for August is required in order to determine month of birth eligibility.

Newborn Eligibility Results in CHIP or ineligibility:

Example 3: Baby born on 8/15/2016 to a non-recipient mom. Application filed on 9/6/16. A determination is completed for the application month of September. Baby's eligibility results in CHIP for September. Because the application was filed within 31 days, CHIP coverage will be approved to begin 8/15/16.

Example 4: Baby born on 8/15/2016 to a non-recipient mom. Application filed on 9/6/16. A determination is completed for the application month of September. Baby is ineligible for all programs. Prior medical was requested – so prior medical income is requested for August in order to determine month of birth coverage. If baby remains ineligible for all programs after completing a prior medical determination, a spenddown will be offered.