

## **Post-Partum Visits for CHIP Perinatal Members Due May 22, 2015**

### **Background**

The CHIP Perinatal (CHIP-P) Program covers two post-partum care visits for the mother once the child is born. When the program began, the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) indicated that because the coverage is for the unborn child, and not the mother, separate claims for post-partum visits would not be permitted. However, HHSC suggested to the plans that post-partum visits could potentially be bundled with prenatal care, or that the plans could pay an “incentive” payment.

### **Information Request**

Stakeholders have raised concerns that some CHIP-P members are having trouble accessing post-partum care. HHSC is researching potential barriers in accessing these services, and would greatly appreciate MCO feedback on this issue in order to identify best approaches to ensuring full access to post-partum care for women in CHIP Perinatal.

Please submit responses to the questions regarding below by Friday, May 22, 2015 to Amanda Hudgens via email at [Amanda.hudgens@hhsc.state.tx.us](mailto:Amanda.hudgens@hhsc.state.tx.us). Please note that responses should be specific to CHIP P providers and members.

1. How does your plan provide information to providers regarding how post-partum visits are covered and paid? (i.e., provider contracts, provider manual, newsletters, etc.) Please include an excerpt of the language you use.
2. How does your plan reimburse providers for post-partum visits? (payment is bundled with prenatal care, an incentive payment, or claims are paid directly for a post-partum visit using a post-partum care CPT code)
3. If post-partum care is bundled with prenatal care, how do you reimburse providers for post-partum care if the woman sees a different provider for post-partum care? Please note if there are any difference for in-network and out-of-network providers.
4. Do you have any suggestions or recommendations on how to ensure that clients have full access to post-partum care, even if they move or see a different provider for post-partum care?
5. What is communicated to a provider who is calling to determine if a CHIP P mother has coverage for postpartum care?