

Jan. 31, 2018

AHCCCS CHANGES TO MATERNITY CARE AND FAMILY PLANNING POLICIES

Dear Care1st Providers and Staff:

AHCCCS has revised policies related to maternity care and family planning services that affect providers. These include:

- Maternity care providers **must screen all pregnant members through the Controlled Substances Prescription Monitoring Program (CSPMP) once a trimester.** For those members receiving opioids, appropriate intervention and counseling **must** be provided, including referral of members for behavioral health services as indicated for Substance Use Disorder (SUD) assessment and treatment.
- When **reporting termination of a pregnancy that is the result of rape or incest**, the treating physician can now certify in his or her professional opinion if the member was unable to comply with the requirements to report the rape and/or incest to the authorities due to physical or psychological reasons. The AHCCCS Certificate of Necessity for Pregnancy Termination (Attachment C of Policy 410, Maternity Care Services, of the AHCCCS Medical Policy Manual is available at <https://azahcccs.gov/shared/MedicalPolicyManual/>).
- The section of Policy 420 on **Amount, Duration and Scope of covered family planning services has been updated to better clarify that the following are covered services:**
 - Long-acting reversible contraceptives (LARC), including intrauterine devices and subdermal implantable contraceptives.
 - Pregnancy screening.
 - Pharmaceuticals, when associated with medical conditions related to family planning or other medical conditions.

Clarification regarding hysteroscopic tubal sterilization has also been added to Policy 420.

- Maternity care providers must use the **new Consent to Sterilization form**, Attachment A of Policy 420, effective 1/10/18. Policy 420 also has been updated to clarify that, in addition to other requirements for obtaining consent for sterilization from a member, **prior to signing the consent form, the member must be given a copy of the consent form and offered factual information that includes:**
 - Advice that the sterilization procedure is considered to be irreversible.
 - A thorough explanation of the specific sterilization procedure to be informed.

All maternity care providers are encouraged to read Ch. 400, Medical Policy for Maternal and Child Health, to ensure they are up-to-date with AHCCCS requirements. All AHCCCS medical policies may be accessed at <https://azahcccs.gov/shared/MedicalPolicyManual/>.

Contact Maritza Jimenez, LPN, QI Manager - EPSDT/MCH/DDD Programs, at 602.474.1365 with questions

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