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DIVISION: Office of Medicaid Management

PAGE 1

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TO: Local District Commissioners, Medicaid Directors

FROM: Richard Nussbaum, Director
Bureau of Policy Development and Agency Relations

SUBJECT: Family Planning Benefit Program Fact Sheet

EFFECTIVE DATE: Immediately

CONTACT PERSON: Myrna Bernstein, OMM Bureau of Policy Development
and Agency Relations: 1-800-541-2831, ext. 3-2160.

This is in reference to the Family Planning Benefit Program (FPBP). See Administrative Directive 02 OMM/ADM-7 that was issued to the Commissioners of Social Services in December 2002. The Family Planning Benefit Program was approved as an amendment to the 1115 Partnership Plan Waiver to expand Medicaid eligibility for family planning services (90% federal/10% state share) to individuals of childbearing age whose income is at or below 200% of the federal poverty level (FPL). Implementation began in October 2002.

It has recently come to our attention that many FPBP enrollees are unfamiliar with the services available through this program. As a result, the Office of Medicaid Management (OMM) has developed a Family Planning Benefit Program Fact Sheet that provides a brief description of the program benefits and identifies the services included in the FPBP. Please share the attached fact sheet with your LDSS staff. In addition, the fact sheet may be copied and given to FPBP enrollees and family planning providers enrolled in the NYS Medicaid Program when they have questions about the services that are covered under the Family Planning Benefit Program.

Family planning providers may also obtain information about the Family Planning Benefit Program in the February 2003 Medicaid Update at:

<http://www.health.state.ny.us/nysdoh/manicare/omm/2003/feb2003.htm>

Additional questions about the Family Planning Benefit Program should be directed to the Office of Medicaid Management/Bureau of Policy Development and Agency Relations at the above referenced telephone number.

FAMILY PLANNING BENEFIT PROGRAM FACT SHEET

Program Benefits

As a Family Planning Benefit Program (FPBP) enrollee, you are eligible for the same family planning services as are currently available to all Medicaid-eligible individuals.

Family planning services can be provided by all Medicaid enrolled family planning providers including hospital-based and free-standing clinics, obstetricians/gynecologists, physicians, nurse practitioners, licensed midwives, pharmacies, and laboratories that provide family planning related services.

Family planning services include the following:

- All FDA (Food & Drug Administration) approved birth control methods, devices and supplies, e.g., *birth control pills or patches, condoms, diaphragms, IUDs*
- Male and female sterilization procedures, e.g., *tubal ligation, vasectomy*
- Emergency contraceptive services and follow-up care
- Counseling, preventive screening and family planning options before pregnancy

The following additional services are considered family planning only when provided during a family planning visit and when the service provided is directly related to family planning:

- Pregnancy testing and counseling
- Screening for sexually transmitted diseases (STDs), cervical cancer, and urinary or female-related infections
- Counseling services related to pregnancy and informed consent, and STD/HIV risk counseling
- Comprehensive health history and physical examination, including breast exam and referrals to primary care providers. Mammograms are not included.
- Screening and related laboratory tests for medical conditions that affect the choice of birth control, e.g., a history of diabetes, high blood pressure, smoking, blood clots, etc.
- HIV counseling and testing

NOTE: *Abortions, treatment for infertility, and follow-up care not related to family planning are not covered under this program.*

If you have additional questions about the Family Planning Benefit Program, please contact the NYS Department of Health/Office of Medicaid Management at 1-800-541-2831, ext. 3-2160.