HEALTH AND WELFARE AGENCY

PETE WILSON, Governor

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES

(916) 657-2941

July 14, 1995

TO: All County Welfare Directors
All County Administrative Officers
All County Medi-Cal Program Liaisons/Specialists

Letter No.: 95-42

DISCONTINUANCE OF MEDI-CAL ELIGIBILITY DATA SYSTEM (MEDS) INPUT FOR PRESUMPTIVE ELIGIBILITY (PE) PARTICIPANTS

Ref.: Manual Letter No. 122 (October 27, 1993), All County Welfare Directors Letter (ACWDL) No. 95-25 (April 7, 1995) and E-Mail No. 95072 Dated July 5, 1995

The purpose of this letter is to inform counties of a new procedure when accepting Medi-Cal applications from PE participants.

Previously, via Manual Letter No. 122, the Department of Health Services (Department) instructed the counties to enter a MEDS update transaction (EW34) when a PE participant filed a Medi-Cal or AFDC application. This transaction extends PE eligibility for the participant until the county approves or denies the Medi-Cal or Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) application. This same transaction is used to discontinue PE when Medi-Cal is denied.

Due to upcoming Departmental changes in PE enrollment and processing, effective August 1, 1995, the Department will no longer enter the initial eligibility for PE onto MEDS. Therefore, counties shall also discontinue MEDS entry of the EW34 transaction to extend the eligibility period of a PE participant as of July 31, 1995. In the near future, the Department will provide you with information regarding a revised method for extending PE which does not require MEDS input.

Medi-Cal applications submitted by PE participants to the county will continue to be processed in the same manner as other Medi-Cal applications from pregnant women; i.e., according to Title 22, California Code of Regulations, Section 50177 and Procedures Manual Section 4-J, applications from pregnant women are to be processed as quickly as possible within available resources.

Also, counties will no longer be responsible for issuing replacement immediate need cards to PE participants who have lost their PE paper card (PREMEDCARD) as previously instructed in ACWDL No. 92-25. Instead, the county shall direct these women to return to the PE provider who gave her the original PE paper card. This provider is responsible for replacing the lost PE paper card.

As the PE procedures are revised to ensure a more efficient process, you will be provided with advance notification and an opportunity to comment. If you have questions about PE, please contact Leanna Pierson of my staff at (916) 654-0630.

Sincerely,

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY

Frank S. Martucci, Chief
Medi-Cal Eligibility Branch