STATE OF CALIFORNIA—HEALTH AND WELFARE AGENCY

PETE WILSON, *Governor*

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES
714/744 P STREET
BOX 942732
SACRAMENTO, CA 94234-7320
(916) 657-2941

December 26, 1994

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

Letter No.: 94-103

MEDICAL SERVICES NOT COVERED UNDER PRESUMPTIVE ELIGIBILITY (PE)

Recently, it has come to the Department's attention that certain PE participants are receiving some medical services which are not covered under PE, but which are covered under Medi-Cal. However, many of these women do not request retroactive Medi-Cal benefits when they apply for Medi-Cal. As a result, provider claims for non-PE services provided prior to the Medi-Cal application date are being denied.

To prevent this from occurring, we ask that counties remind their staff to be especially attentive to the possibility of retroactive Medi-Cal benefits when a PE woman applies for Medi-Cal. It should be recognized that these women may not understand that PE may not cover all medical services they have received since they applied for PE. Counties are asked to remind the PE Medi-Cal applicant that if she is found eligible for Medi-Cal, she may also request retroactive Medi-Cal benefits for the three months preceding her Medi-Cal application month, and that she may make this request anytime within one year after her application for Medi-Cal. This information will assist the applicant to make an informed decision on needing this coverage and will ensure that the provider can bill and be paid for the non-PE medical services provided to his/her eligible patient during her PE period.

If you have any questions about PE, please contact Leanna Pierson at (916) 654-0630. If you have questions concerning retroactive Medi-Cal eligibility, please contact Gary Varner at (916) 654-5321.

Your cooperation in this matter is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

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Frank S. Martucci, Chief
Medi-Cal Eligibility Branch