



JENNIFER KENT
Director

State of California—Health and Human Services Agency
Department of Health Care Services



EDMUND G. BROWN JR.
Governor

September 1, 2016

Medi-Cal Eligibility Division Information Letter No.: I-16-09

TO: ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS
ALL COUNTY WELFARE ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICERS
ALL COUNTY MEDI-CAL PROGRAM SPECIALISTS/LIAISONS
ALL COUNTY MEDS COORDINATORS

SUBJECT: Self-Attestation of Pregnancy

The purpose of this letter is to provide clarifying information on self-attestation of pregnancy for a Medi-Cal eligibility determination. County eligibility workers (CEWs) and Qualified Providers (QPs) for the Presumptive Eligibility for Pregnant Women (PE4PW) Program shall not request proof of pregnancy from applicants applying for Medi-Cal or PE4PW. This letter is a reminder to ensure counties are complying with federal self-attestation of pregnancy requirements.

Background

Prior to March 23, 2012, pregnant women were required to provide a written statement from their physician, physician's assistant, certified nurse midwife, nurse practitioner, or designated medical or clinic personnel verifying their pregnancy. The statement had to include the estimated date of confinement and provide sufficient information to substantiate the diagnosis. Pregnant women applying for Medi-Cal had to submit this verification as part of their application.

Self-Attestation

Effective March 23, 2012, under Title 42 Code of Federal Regulations 435.956 (e) - Verification of Other Non-financial Information, Centers for Medicaid and Medicare Services set forth the State verification process for pregnancy. "The agency must accept self-attestation of pregnancy unless the State has information that is not reasonably compatible with such attestation, subject to the requirements of Section 435.952 of this subpart".

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The Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) and the California Welfare Directors Association presented joint DHCS Affordable Care Act (ACA) training sessions for CEWs which included information on the new self-attestation requirements and were conducted statewide in the last quarter of 2013. In addition, joint training specifically related to pregnancy and the new ACA requirements was presented in December 2013. DHCS through its County Operations calls in 2014 reiterated the new self-attestation requirement with participating county program staff.

PE4PW

While self-attestation of pregnancy for Medi-Cal programs went into effect March 2012, QPs were not immediately notified of this change to the PE4PW program. Though information about the change was shared with providers through Newsflashes and Provider Bulletins, DHCS formally informed the program's QPs to accept self-attestation of pregnancy on March 15, 2014. QPs should accept self-attestation of pregnancy and not ask for medical verification of pregnancy.

If you have any questions, or if we can provide further information, please contact Ms. Cynthia Cannon by telephone at (916) 552-9499 or by email at Cynthia.Cannon@dhcs.ca.gov.

Original Signed By

Sandra Williams, Chief
Medi-Cal Eligibility Division