



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



ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER
Governor

June 18, 2008

TO: ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS Letter No. 08-27
ALL COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICERS
ALL COUNTY MEDI-CAL PROGRAM SPECIALISTS/LIAISONS
ALL COUNTY HEALTH EXECUTIVES
ALL COUNTY MENTAL HEALTH DIRECTORS

SUBJECT: RETROACTIVE COVERAGE FOR PRESUMPTIVE ELIGIBILITY FOR
THE PREGNANT WOMEN PROGRAM

The purpose of this letter is to provide counties with guidance in processing applications from beneficiaries transitioning from the Presumptive Eligibility for Pregnant Women (PE) program to Medi-Cal.

The PE program allows Qualified Providers to grant immediate, temporary Medi-Cal coverage for most ambulatory prenatal care and prescription drugs for conditions related to pregnancy to low-income, pregnant patients pending their formal Medi-Cal application.

The beneficiaries in this program do not receive all pregnancy-related coverage and must apply for ongoing Medi-Cal coverage to receive these services. Because of the limited scope of benefits that PE covers, most PE beneficiaries will require retroactive Medi-Cal to cover some services received during the PE period when they apply for Medi-Cal. Specifically, PE does not cover labor and delivery, inpatient hospitalization, family planning, some laboratory services or medical services that are not pregnancy related.

If workers become aware that an applicant is a PE beneficiary, they are to provide information on how to apply for Medi-Cal and the time frames for applying for retroactive Medi-Cal coverage including services in the three months prior to the Medi-Cal

application date. The applicant should also be made aware that they can apply for retroactive Medi-Cal coverage within one year of the month for which retroactive coverage is requested if their on-going Medi-Cal application is approved.

If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact Ms. Cynthia Cannon at 916 552-9499 or email at cynthia.cannon@dhcs.ca.gov 552-9521.

Original Signed By Bill Walsh for:

Vivian Auble, Chief
Medi-Cal Eligibility Division