

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES

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August 28, 1989

TO: All County Welfare Directors
All County Administrative Officers

Letter No.: 89-70

SUBJECT: COMPREHENSIVE PERINATAL SERVICES PROGRAM (CPSP)
PRENATAL CARE GUIDANCE PROGRAM (PCGP)

The purpose of this letter is to provide information regarding the Comprehensive Perinatal Services Program (CPSP) and the Prenatal Care Guidance Program (PCGP).

Effective October 1, 1987, the Department of Health Services (DHS) implemented CPSP. This program provides health education, psychosocial services, nutrition services, case coordination and prenatal vitamins in addition to traditional obstetrical services. The goal of this program is to decrease the number of low-birthweight babies born to women eligible for Medi-Cal, thereby decreasing the need for expensive neonatal intensive care and long-term medical and rehabilitation services.

There are currently over 200 CPSP providers statewide. Title 22 of the California Code of Regulations requires that providers must apply to the State to become CPSP providers and demonstrate their ability to provide the expanded services. Applicants must be physicians in general practice, family practice, obstetrics and gynecology, or pediatrics; a group, any of whose members is one of the above named physicians; a certified nurse midwife; a preferred provider organization; or a hospital, county or community clinic. All must have a current, valid Medi-Cal provider number. Only CPSP providers may bill Medi-Cal for nutrition, health education, and psychosocial services and prenatal vitamins and minerals provided to pregnant women. These pregnancy related services can be provided from the time of conception until 60 days postpartum (a period of time beginning with the last day of pregnancy and continuing through the end of the month in which the 60 day period ends).

Local CPSP county coordinators in the local health departments assist in the local administration of the program by providing information to potential providers, supplying provider application forms and instructions, and assisting the potential provider in completing the application form. They also review provider applications and make recommendation regarding approval to the DHS. They maintain listings of approved providers within their jurisdiction, as well as additional information regarding the names, addresses and telephone numbers of local welfare departments and other local agencies as appropriate. A list of the CPSP county coordinators is enclosed. Counties may obtain listings of specific county CPSP providers from their local CPSP coordinator.

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The Prenatal Care Guidance Program (PCGP) is a related program. PCGP provides obstetrical case management for Medi-Cal eligible pregnant women through existing Child Health and Disability Prevention (CHDP) local programs. The overall goal of this program is to motivate and assist these women to receive early and appropriate prenatal care so that the opportunities for healthy, full-term infants are maximized. Eligibility Workers in local welfare departments are referring pregnant women to Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnosis and Treatment (EPSDT/CHDP) units for prenatal care guidance if they so request. We understand that some eligibility workers also are informing pregnant women of the importance of and need for prenatal care at the same time. We hope this letter will serve to motivate other departments to incorporate prenatal care informing and referring into their intake procedures. Further information about this program may be obtained through your local CHDP program.

DHS encourages coordination of activities between public and private agencies involved in prenatal care. Everyone benefits when agencies share health information, outreach materials, provider lists, and are familiar with other resources that are available to low income pregnant women. If you have not already done so, we suggest that you contact your CPSP county coordinator, your local CHDP office and other agencies, such as your local Women, Infants and Children's Supplemental Food Program, that work with low-income pregnant women in order to develop a cooperative effort that works best for your particular county.

If you have questions regarding this letter, you may contact Sue Jackson at (916) 322-5298.

Sincerely,

Original signed by

Frank S. Martucci, Chief
Medi-Cal Eligibility Branch

Enclosure

cc: Medi-Cal Liaisons
Medi-Cal Program Consultants

Expiration date: August 15, 1990

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