



State of New Jersey  
Department of Human Services  
Division of Medical Assistance & Health Services

# NEWSLETTER

Volume 12 No. 33

MAY 2002

**TO:** Certified Nurse-Midwives - **For Action**  
Physicians, Independent Clinics, Federally Qualified Health  
Centers (FQHCs), Hospitals, Health Maintenance Organizations  
(HMOs) - **For Information Only**

**SUBJECT:** **First Assistants at Cesarean Delivery**

**EFFECTIVE:** **Immediately**

**PURPOSE:** To notify Certified Nurse-Midwives of a decision by the Division of Medical Assistance and Health Services (DMAHS) to change its policy regarding Medicaid/NJ FamilyCare fee-for-service (FFS) coverage of first assistant services performed by a duly qualified Certified Nurse-Midwife at Cesarean deliveries in in-patient hospital settings.

**BACKGROUND:** DMAHS currently provides Medicaid/NJ FamilyCare FFS coverage and reimbursement for services provided by an assistant surgeon during a Cesarean delivery. The purpose of this Newsletter is to notify Certified nurse-midwives, who meet the requirements of the New Jersey Administrative Code (N.J.A.C.) 13:35-4.1, of the availability of Medicaid/NJ FamilyCare FFS program reimbursement for first assistant services at Cesarean delivery services rendered by a duly qualified Certified Nurse-Midwife.

**ACTION:** Effective for claims with service dates on or after February 1, 2002, first assistant services at a Cesarean delivery performed by a duly qualified Certified Nurse-Midwife in an in-patient hospital setting shall be covered by the Medicaid/NJ FamilyCare FFS program. The applicable modifiers "WM 80" have been added to the appropriate surgical procedure codes below to denote that a nurse-midwife can assist as the assistant surgeon at Cesarean delivery. The appropriate surgical codes must be used for billing the services by a duly qualified Certified Nurse-Midwife. The following procedure codes with modifiers and maximum fee allowances shall apply:

<u>Procedure Code</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Maximum Fee Allowance</u>
59514 WM 80	Cesarean delivery only	\$45.15

<u>CPT Code</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Maximum Fee Allowance</u>
59620 WM 80	Cesarean delivery only, following attempted vaginal delivery after previous cesarean delivery	\$45.15
W9031 WM 80	Cesarean Section, HealthStart	\$62.48

**It is important to note that first assistant services performed by a duly qualified Certified Nurse-Midwife at Cesarean delivery in an in-patient hospital setting is a Medicaid/NJ FamilyCare FFS covered service. First assistant services performed at Cesarean births by a duly qualified Certified Nurse-Midwife in any other settings are not covered by the Medicaid/NJ FamilyCare FFS programs.**

If you have any questions concerning this Newsletter, please contact the Office of Utilization Management, DMAHS at (609) 588-2721.

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(BLUE TAB MARKED "5")**