



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

NEWSLETTER

Volume 9 No. 18

March 1999

TO: Physicians,
Certified Nurse Midwives,
Certified Nurse Practitioners/Clinical Nurse Specialists,
Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHC's)
Independent Clinics,
Independent Clinical Laboratories, and
Health Maintenance Organizations (HMOs) - For Information Only

SUBJECT: Fee-For-Service (FFS) Coverage of Abortion-Related Procedures

EFFECTIVE: Immediately

PURPOSE: To clarify Medicaid and NJ KidCare policy in Newsletter, Volume 8, No. 19, dated April 1998 regarding the billing of pathology procedure codes

BACKGROUND: Newsletter Volume 8, No. 19, dated April 1998 both clarified and changed Division policy in Newsletter, Volume 6, No. 53, dated October 1996, regarding fee-for-service coverage of certain abortion-related services for beneficiaries enrolled in managed health care; and announced the implementation of HCPCS codes specific to elective abortion services to be used by providers for all elective abortions for all beneficiaries. These HCPCS codes are not limited to use for Medicaid or NJ KidCare beneficiaries enrolled in managed care; they should be used for abortion services rendered to any Medicaid or NJ KidCare beneficiary.

The information in the April 1998 Newsletter has not changed and providers are encouraged to reference this Newsletter. However, based on questions asked by providers, we are clarifying the billing procedure for the pathology procedure codes list below.

ACTION: Only individual clinical laboratories and pathologists should bill for the surgical pathology as a result of an elective abortion service for Medicaid or NJ KidCare beneficiaries. They should use one of the following procedure codes: 88300 YD, 88300 YD 26, 88304 YD, or 88304 YD 26.

When referring the specimen out, the referring provider should notify the laboratory/pathologist that the pathology specimen is related to an elective abortion, so that the laboratory/pathologist can bill the appropriate HCPCS code listed below.

HCPCS CODES	DESCRIPTION	MAXIMUM FEE ALLOWANCE
88300 YD	Surgical Pathology, gross	\$ 9.35
88300 YD 26	Surgical Pathology, gross	\$ 7.00
88304 YD	Surgical Pathology	\$26.00
88304 YD 26	Surgical Pathology	\$19.00

NOTE: Referring provider cannot bill in these situations.

If there are any questions concerning this Newsletter, please contact the Division of Medical Assistance and Health Services, Office of Health Service Administration, at (609) 588-2721.

If there are any questions specific to managed care and abortion services, please contact the Division of Medical Assistance and Health Services, Office of Managed Health Care, at (609) 588-2705.

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