Maternity Home Care

Policy:

VCHCP covers medically necessary antenatal and postpartum care.

Inpatient hospital care for forty-eight (48) hours following a normal vaginal delivery and ninety-six (96) hours following a delivery by cesarean section, unless an extended stay is authorized by the Plan. If the treating physician, in consultation with the mother, decides to discharge the mother and newborn before the 48 or 96 hour time period, the Plan will cover a post discharge follow-up visit within 48 hours of discharge when prescribed by the treating physician. The visit shall be provided by licensed health care provider whose scope of practice includes post partum and newborn care and shall include parent education, assistance and training in breast or bottle feeding, and the performance of any necessary maternal or neonatal physical assessments. The treating physician, in consultation with the mother, shall determine whether the post discharge visit shall occur at home, at the hospital, or at the treating physician’s office after assessment of transportation needs of the family, environmental and social risks. (Newborn and Mother’s Health Act of 1996).

See CPB # 201 (Skilled Home Health Nursing Services) for additional information concerning coverage of home care services.

VCHCP will not reduce or limit the reimbursement to the provider, offer any monetary or other inducement, either to the provider or to the mother, to provide or accept care in a manner inconsistent with coverage requirements.

Procedure:
The treating physician is not required to obtain prior authorization for an in-home visit: however, if the services of a home health agency are prescribed, the Plan must receive written notification of the referral and the referral must be made to a Plan-approved provider.

A. Attachments: None

B. Reviewed by: Richard Ashby MD, Lita Catapang RN & QA Committee Date: 7/9/02

   Revised by: Sheldon Haas MD, David Chernof, MD and QA Committee Date: 4/04
   Cynthia Wilhelmy, MD Date: 01-17-06

   Committees: UM on 02-06-06:QA 02-28-06
   Reviewed by: Albert Reeves, MD; Faustine Dela Cruz, RN
   Date: 11/1/11
   Committees: UM on 11/10/11 & QA on 11/22/11
   Reviewed by: Albert Reeves, MD
   Date: 4/17/12
   Committee Reviews: UM on 5-10-12 & QA on 5-22-12

C. References:

S: VCHCP/Administration/Medical Policy /2012/Medical Policy Guidelines/Final MP Copies
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15. Kessel, W, Kiely, M, Nora, AH, Sumaya, CV. Early discharge: In the end, it is judgment. Pediatrics: Vol 96, No 4, 739-742, October, 1995


17. Similar coverages by other local insurers such as Blue Cross of California and Aetna