

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. History:

Reviewed/No Updates: Richard Ashby MD, Lita Catapang RN; QAC; Date: 7/9/02

Reviewed /Revised: Sheldon Haas MD, David Chernof, MD; QAC; Date: April 2004

Reviewed/No Changes: Cynthia Wilhelmy, MD; Date: 01/17/06

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Reviewed/Revised: Albert Reeves, MD; Faustine Dela Cruz, RN; Date: 11/1/11

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Reviewed/No Changes: Albert Reeves, MD; Date: 4/17/12

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Reviewed/No Changes: Catherine Sanders, MD

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2/9/17	No	Catherine Sanders, MD; Robert Sterling, MD	Annual Review
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2/17/22	No	Howard Taekman, MD; Robert Sterling, MD	Annual Review

C. References:

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2. *Committee on fetus and newborn. Hospital stay for healthy term newborns. Pediatrics: Vol 96, No 4, 788-790, October, 1995*
3. *Brann, AW Jr. et al. Committee on Fetus and Newborn Criteria for Early Discharge and Follow-up Evaluation. Pediatrics: 650-651, March, 1980*
4. *American Academy of Pediatrics, American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists. Guidelines for Perinatal Care, 3rd Edition, 108-109, 1992*

5. *State Medical Society of Wisconsin Maternal and Child Health Commission. Guidelines for early hospital discharge of obstetrical patients and newborns. Wisconsin Medical Journal: Vol 92, No 12, 678-679, 1993*
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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*
16. *Brooten, D, Roncoli, M, Finkler, S, et al. A randomized trial of early hospital discharge and home follow-up of women having cesarean birth. Obstet and Gyn: Vol 84, No 5, 832-838*
17. *Similar coverages by other local insurers such as Blue Cross of California and Aetna*