



North Carolina
Department of Health and Human Services
Division of Medical Assistance
Recipient Services MEU

801 Ruggles Drive – 2501 Mail Service Center - Raleigh, N.C. 27699-2501
(919) 855-4000

Michael F. Easley, Governor
Carmen Hooker Odom, Secretary

L. Allen Dobson, Jr., M.D., Assistant Secretary
for Health Policy and Medical Assistance

May 18, 2006

Re: Family Planning Waiver

Dear County Director of Social Services:

It has come to our attention that there is much confusion regarding the Family Planning Waiver, (FPW), particularly in regards to MA-3265, Medicaid FPW, IV. B. 2. When the FPW was implemented in EIS, we expected approvals for greater Medicaid benefits to replace, or overlay, FPW benefits on the Individual Eligibility History (IE) screen. The overlay process in EIS did not work correctly. This also caused confusion for the caseworkers. After additional testing, problems with the overlay process have been resolved.

The purpose of this letter is to provide clarifications regarding FPW policy and EIS processing.

A. At Application

1. When an applicant is potentially eligible for Medically Needy and Family Planning Medicaid, authorize for Medically Needy if medical expenses to meet the deductible have been incurred as of the date of application.
2. If the deductible is not met as of the date of application, follow these instructions:
 - a. Key a new application for Medically Needy (MAF-M or MAD-M) and pend the application until the individual meets his/her deductible.
 - b. Approve a second new application for Family Planning (MAF-D).

When the individual's deductible is met, terminate the Family Planning (MAF-D) case and approve the pended application for full Medicaid.

B. Medicaid Class Change and Aid Program/Category Transfers

1. When the Medicaid Class changes within MAF, use the appropriate change code. Medicaid changes from MAF-D to a greater benefit can be retroactive, but not prior to the Certification From Date on the MAF-D case.
 - a. Based on the certification period established for the Family Planning Waiver case, determine in which 6 month period of the 12 month certification period for FPW that the 6 month deductible is met. Change the Medicaid Class on the 8125 to approve full Medicaid through the end of that 6 month certification period. When that certification period ends, evaluate for other Medicaid coverage, including FPW. If again eligible for FPW, authorize for the remainder of the original FPW certification period.
 - b. If an application is taken for the Family Planning Waiver only and later the applicant's situation changes so that he is eligible for full Medicaid (MAF), change the Medicaid Class on the 8125, using the appropriate change code, to approve the full MAF coverage. This is a change in situation on an active case with an established certification period.

The exception is when the recipient meets his deductible in the last month of the certification period after pull, and the Medicaid card will be going out for FPW. In this situation, complete a new administrative application and an open/shut approval for the days that need to be authorized, leaving the MAF-D active for the next 6 month certification period if appropriate.

An application for retroactive coverage cannot be taken during the 12 month FPW certification period. The recipient is locked into the certification period.

For example: Mary Jones applies for FPW in January and is approved with a 12 month certification period. She returns in May because she has medical bills that total \$3,214 for April. A retroactive application cannot be taken for April. She must meet a 6 month deductible for January through June to be authorized for Medicaid.

2. When changing from full MAF benefit to MAF-D at review, use the appropriate timely change code.
3. When transferring coverage from MAF-D to MPW, use the appropriate transfer code. The transfer can be retroactive, but not prior to the Certification From Date on the MAF-D case.

A change has been made in EIS that allows the caseworker to key the certification period to coincide with the pregnancy, after the pregnancy has been verified. It allows the Certification From Date to be the month of conception (but not prior to the Certification From Date on the MAF-D case) and the Certification Through Date to end at the end of the post-partum period.

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In each of the situations defined above, EIS will automatically overlay the MAF-D with the greater benefit. You will no longer need to call Claims Analysis to request an overlay.

If you have any questions regarding this information, please contact your Medicaid Program Representative.

Sincerely,

L. Allen Dobson

(This material was researched and written by Chris Hager, Program Consultant, EIS Unit.)