Issue Date:
04/11/2016

Effective Date:
12/31/2014

Purpose:
The purpose of this letter is to provide:
- current information on the Hospital Presumptive Eligibility (HPE) program

Background:
The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act of 2010 required implementation of HPE effective January 1, 2014. Qualified hospitals can determine Presumptive Eligibility (PE) to certain Medi-Cal eligible individuals based on preliminary information. This enables hospitals to temporarily enroll individuals into PE Medi-Cal.

Policy Change:
- Individuals enrolled in the HPE program are eligible for coverage on the day in which the PE coverage determination is approved and may continue through the last day of the following month.
- Enrollment period limitations vary based on coverage group.

Summary of Change:
- HPE coverage and limitation section has been updated to reflect policy changes.

Impacts:
Automation:
No impact.

Forms and Document Capture:
No impact.

Programs Affected:
No impact to other programs

Quality Control:
QC will cite the appropriate error on any case that does not comply with the requirements outlined in this letter.

Management Reporting:
No impact.

References:
ACWDL 14-14
MEDIL I 15-26

County of San Diego, Health and Human Services Agency (HHSA) Medi-Cal Program Guide Letter		
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Sunset Date:
This policy will be reviewed for continuance by 04/30/2019.

Approval for Release:

_, 4-6-16

Rick Wanne, Director
Eligibility Operations

Background:
The Patient and Protection and Affordable Care Act of 2010 required implementation of Hospital Presumptive Eligibility (HPE) effective January 1, 2014. Qualified hospitals can determine HPE for certain Medi-Cal eligible individuals based on preliminary information. HPE provides temporary, no share-of-cost, PE Medi-Cal benefits based on self-attested information collected by authorized hospital personnel from the individual.

Policy:
Eligibility Requirements:
To qualify for the HPE program, individuals must be a California resident, not be currently enrolled in Medi-Cal, and meet the income and household composition requirements for one of the ACA eligibility groups.

The ACA eligibility groups are:
- Former foster care children between the ages of 18 and 26 who received Foster Care on their 18th birthday
- Children, ages 0 to18
- Parent/ caretaker relatives
- Pregnant women
- New Adults (ages 19 to 64, not pregnant at time of application, not enrolled in Medicare, and not eligible for any other mandatory group)

HPE Application:
The HPE application is a one-page application that is based on the individual's attestation about their state residence, income and family size.

HPE eligibility determination is made in real-time. Authorized hospital personnel review the application and input the individual's information online via the HPE online portal. Once the application is submitted online, an electronic match verifies that the individual is not currently receiving Medi-Cal benefits using the MEDS system. MEDS will provide a response and makes an HPE eligibility determination. HPE paper applications are not acceptable and must be submitted online only.

If the individual is eligible for HPE, the authorized hospital personnel will provide an "Immediate Need Eligibility Document". HPE beneficiaries will not receive a Benefits Identification Card (BIC); therefore, the "Immediate Need Eligibility Document" can be used as a BIC.

HPE Denials
A HPE application can be denied if applicant attests to any of the following:
- Not being a California resident
- Having income over the limit for their coverage group
- Being currently enrolled in Medi-Cal
- Already having received HPE benefits based on limitations set by DHCS

HPE Enrollment Period and Limitations

The HPE period begins on the day the applicant is determined eligible for PE and ends on the last day of the following month, if a Medi-Cal application is not submitted for ongoing eligibility. If a Medi-Cal application is submitted prior to the last day of the PE period, PE will continue until a final determination is completed. HPE providers are required to provide HPE enrolled individuals an insurance affordability application (also known as a Medi-Cal application) prior to leaving the hospital.

MEDS is programmed to automatically terminate HPE beneficiaries who reach their PE period unless MEDS has a record of a pending application.

If MEDS shows a…	Then MEDS will…
pending application with HX18 transaction (Covered California application) or EW18 transaction (county application)	not automatically terminate.
transaction with either HX20 or EW20	automatically terminate.

HPE enrollment period limitations are as follows:

Coverage Group	PE Enrollment Period Permitted
Former foster youth, age 18 to 25	One every 12 months
Children, age 0 to 18	Two every 12 months
Parents and caretaker relatives	One every 12 months
New Adult Group- age 19 through 64, not pregnant, not enrolled in Medicare, and not eligible for any other group	One every 12 months
Pregnant Women	One per pregnancy

Note: If an applicant is not eligible for PE due to exceeding the related enrollment limitation, a full Medi-Cal application shall be processed, including an evaluation of the need for a retroactive application.

Aid Codes

The following HPE aid codes are used by hospitals to issue HPE benefits to eligible individuals based on description and FPL:

Aid Code	Description	FPL	Level of Benefits
P1	Infants, up to age 1	At or below 208%	Full
P2	Parent/Caretaker relative	At or below 109%	Full
P3	Adults	At or below 138%	Full
P4	Pregnant women	At or below 213%	Limited to ambulatory prenatal services
H6	Infants age 0 to 1	209 – 266%	Full
H7	Children age 1 to 5	At or below 142%	Full
H8	Children age 6 to18	At or below 133%	Full
H9	Children age 1 to 5	143 – 266%	Full
H0	Children age 6 to 18	134 – 266%	Full

4E	Former foster care youth age 18 through 25	No income screening	Full

Procedure:
Medi-Cal applications submitted from HPE beneficiaries must be processed in accordance with our business application processing procedures making sure HPE aid codes are updated on MEDS upon case disposition.

Other Program Impacts:
None

References:
ACWDL 14-14
MEDIL I 15-26
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