

MEDI-CAL PROGRAM GUIDE LETTER (MPG) #692

October 30, 2009

Subject **MEDI-CAL REFERRALS AND BREAST AND CERVICAL CANCER TREATMENT PROGRAM (BCCTP), FOOD STAMP (FS) ELIGIBILITY DETERMINATION FOR MEDI-CAL APPLICANTS AND CLARIFICATION REGARDING THE NATIONAL VOTER REGISTRATION ACT (NVRA)**

Effective Date Upon Receipt

Reference ACWDL 94-85, ACWDL 09-42 and County Policy

Purpose The purpose of this letter is to:

- Remind workers that the Breast and Cervical Cancer Treatment Program has a Medi-Cal program component that must be considered when a Medi-Cal determination or redetermination is made and an applicant or beneficiary declares they have breast and/or cervical cancer.
- Inform workers of the need to provide a Food Stamp Flier for Medi-Cal Applicants with information regarding food stamps eligibility to improve access to better nutrition and health.
- Remind staff of the responsibility to offer the voter registration forms to clients at initial application, recertification, and changes of address.
- Inform workers of the need to provide a San Diego Gas & Electric CARE Program Form in the Medi-Cal application packet.

Background The BCCTP is a statewide program administered by DHCS in Sacramento. Workers shall refer all individuals who have or declare they have breast and/or cervical cancer to BCCTP regardless of whether they would qualify for federal or state-funded BCCTP.

On April 21, 2009, the Board of Supervisors approved the Agency's Nutrition Security Plan (NSP) to promote nutrition, expand outreach and simplify FS eligibility.

In 1993 Congress enacted the national Voter Registration Act (NVRA), under federal law; County Welfare Departments must provide Voter

Registration services to clients at initial application, recertification, and changes of address.

Highlighted Changes

When an individual applies for Medi-Cal, if the individual does not have linkage or will be denied by the worker, and the worker is aware that the individual has or declares to have breast and/or cervical cancer the applicant must be evaluated for eligibility under all Medi-Cal programs, including BCCTP. Referring the case to DHCS allows federal BCCTP eligible women to receive Medi-Cal benefits, including Accelerated Eligibility if eligible, while their disability determination is being reviewed.

If a beneficiary is no longer eligible for their existing Medi-Cal program at the annual redetermination or when the beneficiary reports a change in circumstances, and the beneficiary has or declares to have breast and/or cervical cancer, the worker shall follow the SB 87 process to determine whether the individual is eligible for any other Medi-Cal program, including federal BCCTP if the individual is a woman under 65 years of age, before the individual is discontinued from the existing Medi-Cal program.

Required Action for BCCTP

During the application process, if the individual does not have linkage or will be denied by the worker, and the worker is aware that the individual has or declares to have breast and/or cervical cancer, the worker shall:

1	Simultaneously refer the case to the Disability Determination Services Division – State Programs (DDSD-SP) for a disability determination. See <u>Article 5.04</u> for eligibility criteria.
2	Make a notation on Box 10 of the DDSD-SP referral from (MC221) that the case information has been referred to DHCS BCCTP unit,
3	Refer the case to DHCS BCCTP unit without a disability packet if the criterion for a disability packet is not met.

When a beneficiary is no longer eligible for their existing Medi-Cal program at the annual redetermination or when the beneficiary reports a change in circumstances the worker shall:

1	Simultaneously refer the case to DDSD-SP and DHCS BCCTP unit for an eligibility determination. See <u>Article 5.04</u> for eligibility criteria.
2	Make a notation on Box 10 of the DDSD-SP referral from (MC221) that the case information has been referred to DHCS BCCTP unit.

3	Place the beneficiary in one of the SB 87 Pending Disability aid codes (6J, 6R, 5J or 5R) while a disability determination is made.
4	Not terminate the beneficiary's Medi-Cal eligibility until a determination has been made by DDSD-SP and, if the beneficiary is a woman under 65 years of age, OR
5	Refer the case to DHCS BCCTP unit without a disability packet if the criteria for a disability packet is not met, AND
6	If the beneficiary is a woman under 65 years of age, not terminate her Medi-Cal eligibility until a determination has been made by BCCTP.

Full-scope beneficiary with a pending disability packet when the applicant is determined not eligible for the federal component of BCCTP must remain active in one of the SB 87 pending disability aid code (6J or 6R) while a disability determination is pending.

Restricted-scope beneficiary with a pending disability packet when determined not eligible for the federal component of BCCTP must remain active in one of the SB 87 pending disability aid code (5J or 5R) while a disability determination is pending.

In order for applicants and beneficiaries to be aware that the BCCTP is available FRCs shall include the BCCTP flier (MC 372) in all Medi-Cal application and redetermination packets.

Medi-Cal applications

To improve access to better nutrition and health, applicants will be screened for potential eligibility to food stamps when applying for Medi-Cal. The worker will provide the Medi-Cal applicant with a food stamp flyer and ask if they would like to apply. If yes, the worker will provide the forms DFA 285 A1, A2 & A3 to apply for food stamps

Voter Registration

Under federal law, County Welfare Departments must provide Voter Registration services to clients at initial application, redeterminations and changes of address.

Automation Impact

None

Forms Impact

The MC 373 County Referral to the Breast and Cervical Cancer Treatment Program (Attachment A), the MC 372 BCCTP Flyer (Attachment B) is available in iWay for order by your stock clerks.

The Food Stamps Flyer (Attachment C) is available in iWay for order by your stock clerks.

The "California Voter Registration Application form" can be ordered directly from San Diego County Registrar of Voters office via the office stock clerk.

Deleted form HHS 14-47 DHC 6155 Attachment.

Quality Assurance Impact

Effective with the November 2009 review month, Quality Assurance will cite the appropriate error on any case that does not comply with the requirements outlined in this letter.

Summary of Changes

The table below shows the changes made in the MPG.

Section	Summary of Change
Article 4 Section 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Added 16-64 Voter Registration requirement for Medi-Cal Applicants.• Added MC 372 BCCTP Flyer requirement for Medi-Cal Applicants.• Added SDG&E CARE Program requirement for Medi-Cal Applicants.
Article 4 Section 15	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Added Food Stamps Flyer requirement for Medi-Cal.• Added Voter Registration requirements for Medi-Cal changes.
Article 4 Section 16	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Infomapped• Added BCCTP application and redetermination process• Added MC 373 BCCTP Referral form as Appendix G• Added MC 375 BCCTP Flyer as Appendix H• Deleted BCCTP County Transmittal (07/06)

Manager Approval



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