



CLIENT ADVISORY

December 2006

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The December 15, 2006 Illinois Register (Volume 30 Issue 50) includes an emergency amendment to the Illinois Public Aid Code, Medical Payment, which amendment defines those services that are direct access services. It also sets forth a provision that providers will be denied payment for services provided without a referral, unless they are direct access services. **(NOTE: Mental Health & Substance Abuse Treatment are considered direct access services for which no referral is needed.)**

The following is the emergency amendment creating a new Section 140.996, Access to Health Care Services:

Section 140.996 Access to Health Care Services EMERGENCY

- a) With the exception of those direct access services identified in subsection (b), individuals enrolled with a PCP (primary care provider) may only access health care services from that PCP, or a provider designated to the Department as affiliated with that PCP or a provider to whom that PCP has referred them.
- b) The following services shall be considered direct access. Individuals enrolled with a PCP do not need a referral in order to access the services listed in this subsection.
 - 1) Services provided to newborns up to 91 days after birth
 - 2) Family Planning and Obstetrical and Gynecological (OB/Gyn) Services
 - 3) Inpatient and Outpatient Hospital Services
 - 4) Shots/Immunizations
 - 5) Emergency Services
 - 6) Emergency and Non-Emergency Transportation
 - 7) Pharmaceuticals
 - 8) Dental Services
 - 9) Vision Services
 - 10) Therapies

- 11) **Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services**
- 12) Outpatient Ancillary Services (radiology, pathology, lab, anesthesia)
- 13) Services to treat sexually transmitted diseases and tuberculosis
- 14) Early Intervention Services
- 15) Lead Screening and Epidemiological Services
- 16) Services provided in the following settings:
 - A) School-based/Linked clinics for children under age 21
 - B) School-Based clinics through Local Education Authorities for children under age 21
 - C) Local Health Departments
 - D) Mobile vans, with Department approval
 - E) FQHC homeless sites and migrant health centers

In addition, this emergency amendment states providers other than an individual's PCP or providers affiliated with that PCP will not be reimbursed for services that are not direct access services, unless the individual was referred by the individual's PCP.

Section 140.997 Payment for Services EMERGENCY

Effective on or after July 1, 2007, for individuals enrolled with a PCP, providers other than the individual's PCP or providers affiliated with that PCP shall not be reimbursed for services that are not direct access services, unless the individual was referred to that provider by the individual's PCP.