Public Notice

Pursuant to 42 C.F.R. § 447.205, the Georgia Department of Community Health is required to give public notice of any significant proposed change in its methods and standards for setting payment rates for services.

Proposal to Reimburse FQHCs and RHCs for the Purchase and Insertion of Long Acting Reversible Contraceptives

Pending CMS approval and effective for services provided on or after May 15, 2015, the Department is proposing to provide fee for service reimbursement to the Georgia Medicaid enrolled Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs) and Rural Health Centers (RHCs) for the purchase and insertion of long acting reversible contraceptives for Medicaid and PeachCare for Kids® eligible members. The objective of this Proposal is to assist the State of Georgia in improving the use of highly effective contraceptive methods, thereby promoting birth spacing and appropriately timed pregnancies and ultimately reducing the state's low birth weight rate. Improving the use of highly effective contraceptive methods is also a goal of the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. Currently, due to the Prospective Payment System in place for FQHCs and RHCs, there is not a mechanism for reimbursement of these highly effective forms of contraception which are more costly than contraceptive methods that are less effective.

This change is estimated to increase expenditures for SFY 15 and SFY 16 as follows:

- $658,621 in total state and federal funds for the remainder of FFY 15 and $3,073,566 in total state and federal funds for FFY 16. These total funds include a 90:10 federal funds match rate since they are family planning related.
- The projected state cost for the remainder of FFY 15 is $65,862 and for FFY 16, it is $307,357.

This public notice is available for review at each county Department of Family and Children Services office. An opportunity for public comment will be held on **May 22, 2015, at 11:30 a.m.** at the Department of Community Health (2 Peachtree Street, N.W., Atlanta, Georgia 30303) in the 5th Floor Board Room. Individuals who are disabled and need assistance to participate during this meeting should call (404) 656-4479. Citizens wishing to comment in writing on the proposal should do so on or before **May 29, 2015**, by sending their comments to: Dr. Janice Carson, Department of Community Health, 2 Peachtree Street, NW, 36th Floor, Atlanta, Georgia 30303. Comments may also be submitted via fax to (404) 651-6880 or via email to jcarson@dch.ga.gov.

Comments from written and public testimony will be provided to the Board of Community Health prior to the **June 11, 2015** Board meeting. The Board will vote on the proposed change at the Board meeting to be held at 10:30 a.m. on June 11, 2015, at the Department of Community Health (2 Peachtree Street, N.W., Atlanta, Georgia 30303) in the 5th Floor Board Room.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THIS 14th Day of May, 2015
Clyde L. Reese III, Esq., Commissioner