

MVP FASTFAX

News for Providers

Improving Perinatal Care for Medicaid Members

As part of the MVP Health Care® (MVP) 2017-2018 Performance Improvement Project (PIP) for NYSDOH, MVP will be working with OBGYN providers to improve perinatal care for its Medicaid members. One of the goals is to improve utilization of Long-Acting Reversible Contraception (LARC) to support birth spacing that is optimal for maternal-fetal outcomes and patient choice.

Rapid repeat pregnancy (within 12-18 months following delivery) is possible if women unsuccessfully initiate or inconsistently use short-acting contraceptive methods after delivery. Brief inter-pregnancy intervals have been associated with an increased risk for several poor maternal and infant health outcomes, including preterm birth, low birth weight, and perinatal death.

When women are not aware of their pregnancy, they may be more likely to increase unhealthy habits such as smoking, as well as delay initiating prenatal care.

Long-Acting Reversible Contraception (LARC) has been shown to be an effective method of birth control with little effort required on the part of the individual after insertion. Several professional organizations publish recommendations on the use of LARC, including the American Congress of Obstetrics and Gynecology (ACOG), the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP), and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

Recommendations generally include:

- Providing counseling on all contraceptive options for all women at risk of unintended pregnancy.
- Encouraging use of LARC for all appropriate candidates, including nulliparous women and teens.
- Adopting best practices for LARC insertion, including provision on the same day as requested, and at the time of delivery, miscarriage, or abortion.

Preliminary results from one of four cohorts reported in the NYSDOH Medicaid Prenatal Care Quality Improvement Project tool indicated that only 11.4% of women received contraception immediately post-delivery. MVP will endeavor to increase the percentage of women ages 15 to 44 who are provided with LARC within three to 60 days post-delivery.

Questions? Please contact the Customer Care Center for Provider Services. Representatives are available weekdays from 8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time at 1-800-684-9286.

