

Affected Programs: BadgerCare Plus, Medicaid

To: Hospital Providers, Physician Clinics, Physicians, Nurse Midwives, Nurse Practitioners, HMOs and Other Managed Care Programs

Changes to Eligibility for the Continuously Eligible Newborn Option

Effective January 1, 2009, babies born to certain non-qualifying immigrants are now eligible for Medicaid enrollment under the continuously eligible newborn (CEN) option. Providers should now report *all* newborn babies whose mothers are enrolled in Medicaid or BadgerCare Plus to ForwardHealth to ensure that all eligible newborn babies are enrolled.

Babies born to women with incomes over 300 percent of the Federal Poverty Level are not eligible for CEN status. However, the baby may still qualify for BadgerCare Plus. These mothers should report the birth to the local agencies within 10 calendar days.

The *ForwardHealth Update* is the first source of program policy and billing information for providers.

Wisconsin Medicaid, BadgerCare Plus, SeniorCare, and Wisconsin Chronic Disease Program are administered by the Division of Health Care Access and Accountability, Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS). The Wisconsin Well Woman Program is administered by the Division of Public Health, Wisconsin DHS.

For questions, call Provider Services at (800) 947-9627 or visit our Web site at www.forwardhealth.wi.gov/.

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