
Attention Hospital and Physician Providers: Provider Notice for Precertification for OB Care and Delivery

The precertification edit for OB Care and Delivery that went into effect August 30, 2010 was implemented to remove the administrative burden placed on the providers to obtain approval of days that are mandated approved by federal law. The 2 days approved for a vaginal delivery and 4 days approved for a cesarean section are in accordance with federal guidelines pertaining to the Newborn Protection Act. Days beyond the 2 and 4 days that are approved in accordance with the Newborn Protection Act via the precertification edit are to account for admissions or deliveries late in the evening. Any days approved via the claims processing edit that are greater than the 2 and 4 days mandated by federal guidelines may be subject to medical necessity review retrospectively. Facility specific length of stay reports are generated monthly to compare delivery LOS data pre and post implementation of this policy. Medical necessity should guide the physician decision making process related to discharge and patients should be kept in the hospital for medical necessity only. The precertification edit is not intended to provide approval of hospital days where medical necessity does not exist for continued hospitalization.
