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Gynecology

Gynecologic services include:

- Contraceptive implants
- Intrauterine contraceptive system
- Pap smears
- Pelvic examinations
- Hysterectomies, and
- Screening mammographies

Limitations may apply and services provisions must conform to the policy detailed below.

Contraceptive Implants

Louisiana Medicaid reimburses for the insertion and removal of the Etonogestrel implant.

Clinically trained providers must obtain the contraceptive implant (one per recipient per three years) from a specialty pharmacy authorized by the manufacturer.

NOTE: The physician will not be reimbursed by Medicaid for the implant as the implant is reimbursed as a pharmacy benefit.

Provider claims for the insertion, removal, or removal with reinsertion of the implant are to be submitted using the appropriate *Current Procedural Terminology* (CPT) codes and diagnosis codes (V25.5, V25.43, or V45.52) or the equivalent. If nationally approved changes occur to diagnosis or CPT codes relating to this implant, providers are to use the most accurate coding available for the particular date of service.

Claims submitted for this contraceptive implant and its insertion in excess of the manufacturer's recommended guidelines are subject to review and action by Louisiana Medicaid.

Documentation in the physician's recipient record is to include evidence of appropriate recipient education regarding this long-acting contraceptive, as detailed in the prescribing literature.

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Intrauterine Contraceptive System

Louisiana Medicaid reimburses for the insertion and the Levonorgestrel releasing intrauterine system (20 mcg/day) implant. Providers are to submit the appropriate insertion and implant procedure codes.

Federal statutes require provider filing of the National Drug Code (NDC) on claims for physician administered drugs, as is the case for the Levonorgestrel releasing intrauterine system.

Pap Smears

Collection of the pap smear specimen is included in the reimbursement of the evaluation and management service.

Cytopathologic vaginal smears (Pap smears) may be billed only if the provider billing the service has the necessary laboratory equipment to perform the test in their office.

Pelvic Examinations

Routine pelvic examinations are included in the reimbursement for the evaluation and management service. Therefore, routine pelvic examinations should not be billed as separate procedures.

Pelvic examinations under anesthesia (procedure code 57410) may be medically necessary for certain populations and must be prior authorized. The recipient's medical record must indicate the medical justification for the pelvic examination under anesthesia.

Hysterectomy

Federal regulations governing Medicaid payment of hysterectomies prohibit payment under the following circumstances:

- If the hysterectomy is performed solely for the purpose of terminating reproductive capability, or
- If there is more than one purpose for performing the hysterectomy, but the procedure would not be performed except for the purpose of rendering the individual permanently incapable of reproducing.

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Louisiana Medicaid guidelines only allow payment to be made for a hysterectomy when:

- The person securing authorization to perform the hysterectomy has informed the individual and her representative (if any), both orally and in writing, that the hysterectomy will make the individual permanently incapable of reproducing, and
- The individual or her representative (if any) has signed a written acknowledgement of receipt of that information. (See Appendix B for information on obtaining a copy of the “Acknowledgement of Receipt of Hysterectomy Information,” BHSF Form 96-A).

These regulations apply to all hysterectomy procedures, regardless of the woman’s age, fertility, or reason for surgery.

Consent for Hysterectomy

The hysterectomy consent form must be signed and dated by the recipient on or before the date of the hysterectomy. The consent must include signed acknowledgement from the recipient stating she has been informed orally and in writing that the hysterectomy will make her permanently incapable of reproducing.

The physician who obtains the consent should share the consent form with all providers involved in that recipient’s care, (e.g., attending physician, hospital, anesthesiologist, and assistant surgeon) as each of these claims must have the valid consent form attached. To avoid a “system denial”, **the consent must be attached to any claim submission related to a hysterectomy.**

When billing for services that require a hysterectomy consent form, the name on the Medicaid file for the date of service in which the form was signed should be the same as the name signed at the time consent was obtained. If the recipient’s name is different, the provider must attach a letter from the physician’s office from which the consent was obtained. The letter should be signed by the physician and should state that the recipient’s name has changed and should include the recipient’s social security number and date of birth. This letter should be attached to all claims requiring consent upon submission for claims processing.

A witness signature is needed on the hysterectomy consent when the recipient meets one of the following criteria:

- Recipient is unable to sign her name and must indicate “x” on the signature line, or
- There is a diagnosis on the claim that indicates mental incapacity.

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If a witness signs the consent form, the signature date **must** match the date of the recipient's signature. If the dates do not match, or the witness does not sign and date the form, claims related to the hysterectomy will deny.

Exceptions

Obtaining consent for a hysterectomy is unnecessary in the following circumstances:

- The individual was already sterile before the hysterectomy, and the physician who performed the hysterectomy certifies in his own writing that the individual was already sterile at the time of the hysterectomy and states the cause of sterility.
- The individual required a hysterectomy because of a life-threatening emergency situation in which the physician determined that prior acknowledgment was not possible, and the physician certifies in his own writing that the hysterectomy was performed under these conditions and includes in his narrative a description of the nature of the emergency.
- The individual was retroactively certified for Medicaid benefits, and the physician who performed the hysterectomy certifies in his own writing that the individual was informed before the operation that the hysterectomy would make her permanently incapable of reproducing. In addition, if the individual was certified retroactively for benefits, and the hysterectomy was performed under one of the two other conditions listed above, the physician must certify in writing that the hysterectomy was performed under one of those conditions and that the recipient was informed, in advance, of the reproductive consequences of having a hysterectomy.

The written certification from the physician **must** be attached to the hard copy of the claim in order for the claim to be considered for payment.

Screening Mammography

Louisiana Medicaid allows payment for one screening mammogram (either film or digital) per calendar year for females at least 40 years of age. Providers should perform the most clinically appropriate method (film or digital) specific to the recipient.

Abortions (See Obstetrics Section)