

Provider Bulletin

Molina Healthcare of California

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Medi-Cal Provider Manual Update: Non-Physician Medical Practitioners (NMP) Section

This is an advisory notification to Molina Healthcare of California (MHC) network providers applicable to the Medi-Cal line of business.

What you need to know:

The Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) is pleased to report that the Non-Physician Medical Practitioners (NMP) section of the Medi-Cal Provider Manual was recently updated in March 2024 after extensive internal discussions and consultation with external stakeholders.

The most recent updates to the NMP section include the following:

- Removing the list of specific billing codes and covered services for nurse practitioners (NPs) and certified nurse midwives (CNMs) to ensure they can bill appropriately consistent with Medi-Cal policy as well as their scope of practice as defined in state statute and by their applicable licensing/certification boards (e.g., California Board of Registered Nursing and, for nurse midwives, also the American College of Nurse Midwives). To this end, CNMs and NPs should now have greater flexibility and should utilize the various sections of the Medi-Cal Provider manual to identify Medi-Cal coverage and billing policies that align with CNM and NP scopes of practice.
- Adding a list of specific Medi-Cal covered services and associated billing codes that licensed midwives (LMs) can bill pursuant to their scope of practice as defined by the Medical Board of California (MBC) as licensed practitioners and consistent with established protocols, procedures and treatments authorized pursuant to BPC sections 2505-2521. One note here is that DHCS is still undertaking some code refinement work based upon recent direction and guidance received from the Medical Board of California, which as you know is the entity that defines LM scope of practice.

Provider Action

To access the Non-Physician Medical Practitioners section of the Medi-Cal Provider Manual, please visit the following link: mcweb.apps.prd.cammis.medi-cal.ca.gov/assets/EAAB6AC3-FC33-4235-8559-673AFE542D1A/nonph.pdf?access_token=6UyVkJRRfByXTZEWIh8j8QaYyIPyP5ULO

Please take a few moments to participate in our Communication Preference Survey. Your feedback will directly influence Molina's engagement with providers, creating a more seamless and efficient communication experience for our network.

Take the survey at molinahealthcare.surveymonkey.com/r/VS5RGTG!



What you need to know CONT:

Certified Nurse Midwife

Physician/Practitioner Interface

Medi-Cal providers who employ or use the services of CNMs who function pursuant to mutually agreed-upon policies and protocols with a physician as described in BPC, Section 2746.5(b), specifically for rendering care not included in the scope of services described in BPC, Section 2746.5(a), are required to develop a physician/practitioner interface document that establishes how medical treatment services provided by physicians and CNMs are integrated and made consistent with accepted medical practice. This document must be kept on file at the provider's office, readily available for review by DHCS.

The Medi-Cal program also has specific requirements for the physician/practitioner interface document:

- All written policies and protocols issued in collaboration between the physician and the CNM pursuant to BPC, Section 2746.5.
- The mutually agreed-upon policies and protocols signed by a physician and the midwife suffice for requirement (c). If the midwife is only working within scope described in BPC, Section 2746.5(b) the written protocols need only state that the midwife and physician work together collaboratively within their respective scope.

CNMs Ordering Drugs or Devices

Pursuant to BPC 2746.51, CNMs may furnish or order drugs or devices consistent with the care and the CNMs scope of services described in BPC 2746.5(a). There is no physician supervision requirement for CNMs for the purpose of furnishing or ordering of drugs or devices.

Licensed Midwives

Licensed Midwives (LMs) are licensed by Medical Board of California and perform direct patient care services. LMs are authorized to become Medi-Cal providers and render midwifery services as independent practitioners or serve in a specialty clinic authorized to bill Medi-Cal for Comprehensive Perinatal Services Program (CPSP), obstetrical and delivery services.

Billing and Reimbursement

LMs can bill for services pursuant to their scope of practice as licensed practitioners with established protocols, procedures and treatments authorized pursuant to BPC 2505-2521. LM providers must not bill for services that are provided to the same patient on the same day that are duplicative to services that are reimbursed through other Medi-Cal providers.

Enrollment

LMs must be enrolled through the DHCS Provider Enrollment Division (PED) for Medi-Cal reimbursement. The LM and employing provider, if applicable, must enroll with PED via the Provider Application and Validation for Enrollment (PAVE) portal listed on the DHCS Licensed Midwife application information website.

If you are not contracted with Molina and wish to opt out of the MHC Provider Bulletin, email mhcproviderbulletin@molinahealthcare.com. Please include the provider's name, NPI, county, and fax number, and you will be removed within 30 days.

What if you need assistance?

If you have any questions regarding the notification, please contact your Molina Provider Relations Representative below.

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