



Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals BAYOU HEALTH Informational Bulletin 12-4 February 24, 2012

Issue: Continuity of Care for Pregnant Women

The BAYOU HEALTH Program has special requirements for continuity of care for a pregnant woman who is already receiving medically necessary services on the day before (last day of month) their effective date of enrollment in a BAYOU HEALTH Plan.

Continuity of Prenatal Care Services

Pregnant Woman in 1st Trimester on Beginning Date of BAYOU HEALTH Enrollment

- BAYOU HEALTH Plan is responsible for the costs associated with continuing services for pregnant women, including prenatal care, delivery, and post-natal care
 - without prior approval and
 - whether services are rendered by a contract or non-contract provider
 - **until** the Health Plan can reasonably **transfer the member to a network provider** without impeding service delivery that might be harmful to the member's health.

Pregnant Woman in 2nd or 3rd Trimester on Beginning Date of BAYOU HEALTH Enrollment

- BAYOU HEALTH Plan is responsible for providing continued access to the **prenatal care provider**—
 - without prior approval and
 - whether services are rendered by a contract or non-contract provider
 - through the postpartum period.

Continuity of Medically Necessary Services Other Than Prenatal Care

- BAYOU HEALTH Plan is responsible for the costs of continuing such services,
 - without prior approval and
 - whether services are rendered by a contract or non-contract provider
 - for up to ninety (90) calendar days or **until** the member may be reasonably transferred without disruption, whichever is less. The Health Plan may require prior authorization for continuation of services beyond thirty (30) calendar days; however the Health Plan is prohibited from denying authorization solely on the basis that the provider is a non-contract provider.

Hospital Services

The BAYOU HEALTH Plan may require the pregnant woman to use an in-network hospital. If the hospital is an out-of-network provider, DHH encourages the hospital to contact the member's Health Plan to obtain any necessary prior authorizations the Plan may require.