Arkansas Department of Human Services
Division of Medical Services

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OFFICIAL NOTICE

DMS-2004-W-2

TO: **All Providers**

DATE: **July 1, 2004**

SUBJECT: **New Coverage for Unborn Children in-Aid Category 61**

Effective for dates of service on or after July 1, 2004, the Division of Medical Services (DMS) is adding coverage for a new group of pregnant women (coverage is for the unborn child). Eligibility for this group will not begin before July 1, 2004.

I. Background

Section 4901 of the Balanced Budget Act of 1997 (BBA) amended the Social Security Act (referenced as the Act) by adding Title XXI, the State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP). Title XXI of the Act enables states to expand the provision of child health assistance to uninsured, low-income children, including unborn children who will be U. S. citizens at birth. Therefore, effective July 1, 2004, Arkansas will cover pregnant women whose child will be a U. S. citizen at birth.

II. Summary of Eligibility Criteria

The following is provided for informational purposes only. The new group of pregnant women:

A. Are aliens

B. Are pregnant; Medical verification of the pregnancy is required.

C. Have no other insurance that covers the pregnancy

D. Have net income at or below 200% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL)

The Department of Human Services is in compliance with Titles VI and VII of the Civil Rights Act.

III. Medicaid Services, Limits and Requirements

A. Recipients in this new group are included in the SOBRA pregnant women aid category 61.

B. The benefits for the new group will be the same as those for the SOBRA pregnant women category under Medicaid with the exception of sterilization procedures, which are not covered.

C. If sterilization procedures are being considered for a SOBRA pregnant woman in category 61, the provider should verify eligibility. The system will specify "PW unborn ch-no ster cov" for pregnant women for whom medical coverage is granted through the unborn child provision, but for whom sterilization procedures are not covered.

D. Medicaid age limits for services, Medicaid maximum allowable payment rates and Medicaid benefit limitations apply. Women who are eligible in this new group must be enrolled with a primary care physician to receive coverage for treatment of conditions that may complicate the pregnancy.

If you need this material in an alternative format, such as large print, please contact our Americans with Disabilities Act Coordinator at (501) 682-6789 or 1-877-708-8191. Both telephone numbers are voice and TDD.

If you have questions regarding this notice, please contact the EDS Provider Assistance Center at In-State WATS 1-800-457-4454, or locally and Out-of-State at (501) 376-2211.

Thank you for your participation in the Arkansas Medicaid Program.

Roy Jeffus, Director

Arkansas Medicaid provider manuals (including update transmittals), official notices and remittance advice (RA) messages are available for downloading from the Arkansas Medicaid website: **www.medicaid.state.ar.us**.