A Message to

Business Office Managers

8000 Midlantic Drive, Suite 333, Mt. Laurel N.J. 08054

MEMORANDUM

TO: All Contracting Mother's Option Agencies

FROM: Kathleen Mariano
Manager, Provider Relations

DATE: July 23, 2003

SUBJECT: New Protocol for Mother's Option- Well Mom/Well Baby Visits

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Effective immediately, AmeriHealth has changed the requirements for Well Mom/Well Baby visits for AmeriHealth and AmeriHealth Point of Service (POS), AmeriHealth Personal Choice. The change in protocols eliminates the requirement that home care visits take place on the first and third days after discharge. The new protocols are listed below.

Shortened length of Stay

1. Uncomplicated Vaginal delivery

- If desired by the member, 2 home care visits are covered when the member is discharged within the first 24 hours following delivery.
- The first visit must occur within 48 hours (2 days) unless refused by the member. The second visit must occur within 5 days of discharge.
- If desired by the member, 1 home care visit is covered when the member is discharged within the first 48 hours following delivery. This visit must occur within 48 hours (2 days) of discharge.

2. **Uncomplicated Cesarean Delivery**

- If desired by the member, 1 home care visit is covered when the member is discharged within the first 96 hours following delivery. This visit must occur within 48 hours (2 days) of discharge.

Standard length of Stay

- If desired by the member, 1 automatic home health visit is covered when the hospital stay is 48 hours or longer for a vaginal delivery or 96 hours or longer for a Cesarean delivery. These visits must occur within 5 days of discharge.

Please note: Precertification is **not required** for Mother's Option visits as described above for the referenced managed care programs. For members with Comprehensive Major Medical or Traditional coverage **with a standard length of stay,** prior notification is required to ensure proper claim processing.

Any additional home health care needed beyond that allowed by the Mother's Option program (as described above) requires precertification.

If you have any questions regarding this bulletin, please contact Melinda Grant, Ancillary Coordinator at 856-778-6647.

Provider Bulletins are now available on the web at www.amerihealth.com/njbulletins.