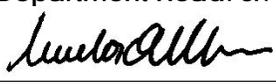
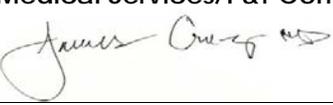


Policy Title: Sensitive Services		POLICY #: 10.2.16	
		Line of business: Medi-Cal	
Department Name: Utilization Management	Original Date 11/97	Effective Date 5/19	Revision Date 12/18
Department Head: Sr. Director, UM 			Date: 3/21
Medical Services/P&T Committee: (If Applicable) PHP CMO 			Date: 3/21

PURPOSE

To assure the confidential delivery of specific sensitive services to Blue Shield of California Promise Health Plan (Blue Shield Promise) members twelve (12) years of age and older.

DEFINITION:

“Sensitive Services” means those services that are defined as services related to sexual assault, substance or alcohol abuse, pregnancy, family planning, and sexually transmitted diseases for members.

POLICY

California regulations provide for beneficiaries to receive confidential treatment, without parental consent, for family planning, pregnancy termination, sexually transmitted diseases, and HIV testing and treatment. See UM policy and procedure for each of these specific services for details of providing, or referring members, for these services. Referral, authorization (as indicated) and claims processing for these services shall be handled with utmost confidentiality. Communication by letter, fax or telephone shall be done only with the signed consent of the member.

PROCEDURE

Family Planning

Members may obtain these services through their regular Primary Care Provider (PCP), for Medi-Cal members they may access other community providers without prior authorization. Blue Shield Promise Member Services and Utilization Management Departments maintain resource list of Family Planning providers for those members desiring a referral.

Pregnancy Termination

The termination of pregnancy for both medical and elective reasons is a covered benefit under Blue Shield Promise Health Plan. Pregnancy termination is not a family planning service. Parental consent is not required. However, all other applicable patient consent requirements must be met.

Sexually Transmitted Diseases

Medi-Cal Members have freedom of choice in obtaining care for STDs. Members will be encouraged to obtain care for these conditions from their PCP or referred provider, but may directly access care from community providers, as specified in the STD policy and procedure.

Healthy Families Members are limited to their PCP or may direct access in accordance with Section 1367.69 of the Health and Safety Code.

HIV Testing and Treatment

Members may access confidential HIV counseling and testing services, and treatment as specified in the HIV policy and procedure, from community providers. HIV services can be obtained through provider network and out-of-network local health department and family planning providers.

Due to the physical and mental health implications of HIV in the adolescent population, members should be encouraged to obtain these services from specialized providers, such as Gay and Lesbian Centers, if so indicated.

Outpatient Mental Health Care

Children twelve (12) years of or older who are mature enough to participate intelligently and where either:

1. There is a danger of serious physical or mental harm to the minor or others
2. The children are the alleged victims of incest or child abuse.

REFERENCES

APL 15-020

Health and Safety Code 1367.69