PROVISION OF CERTIFIED NURSE MIDWIFE AND ALTERNATIVE BIRTH CENTER FACILITY SERVICES  
(APL 15-017)

This is an advisory notification to the Molina Healthcare of California (MHC) contracted provider network regarding member access to Certified Nurse Midwife (CNM) services and alternative or freestanding birth centers.

This notification is based on APL 15-017, which can be found in full on the DHCS website at http://www.dhcs.ca.gov/formsandpubs/Pages/AllPlanLetters.aspx

BACKGROUND

Alternative Birthing Centers (ABCs) are defined as specialty clinics authorized to bill Medi-Cal for Comprehensive Perinatal Services Program (CPSP), obstetrical, and delivery services. Additionally, the term freestanding birth center is defined as a health facility that is not a hospital and where childbirth is planned to occur away from the pregnant woman’s residence. It is licensed or otherwise approved by the state to provide prenatal labor and delivery or postpartum care and other ambulatory services that are covered by the plan and complies with such other requirements relating to the health and safety of individuals furnished services by the facility as the state shall establish.

A CNM is a Non-Physician Medical Practitioner who is licensed as a Registered Nurse and certified as a nurse midwife by the California Board of Registered Nursing. He/she may be employed by a Medi-Cal provider or be an independent Medi-Cal provider. Licensed (non-nurse) midwives are not currently allowed to enroll as independent Medi-Cal providers. CNMs must practice in collaboration with a physician and surgeon who have current practice or training in obstetrics and gynecology.

REQUIREMENTS

MHC provides members access to CNM services and gives members the right to obtain out-of-plan CNM services. Additionally, MHC provides coverage for freestanding birth center facility services and services rendered by certain professionals providing services in a freestanding birth center.

If for any reason we are unable to provide such services within the network, services can be arranged through out-of-network providers, per contractual and regulatory requirements.

Providers must adhere to all state and federal laws and regulations regarding the practice and access to these services for members.

QUESTIONS

If you have any questions or require further clarification regarding this notification, please contact your Molina Provider Services Representative at (855) 322-4075.

If you are not contracted with Molina and wish to opt out of the Just the Fax, call (855) 322-4075, ext. 127413
Please leave provider name and fax number and you will be removed within 30 days.