

To: Network Hospitals; Practitioners
From: Victor Wu, Chief Medical Officer
Date: October 3, 2017
Subject: **Billing Policy Change for Immediate Postpartum
Voluntary Reversible Long-Acting Contraception**

TennCare, Tennessee's Medicaid program, provides coverage for voluntary reversible long acting contraceptive devices (VRLACs) including implants and intrauterine devices (IUD) through both an inpatient medical benefit and outpatient pharmacy benefit. TennCare's three contracted managed care organizations (MCOs), Amerigroup, BlueCare, and United Healthcare Community Plan, have agreed to implement a billing policy change to allow TennCare enrollees who would choose a VRLAC contraceptive option to have more ready access to their device of choice immediately following delivery during an inpatient stay. TennCare's three MCO will be implementing similar policies that will allow for reimbursement of the VRLAC device cost and the professional practitioner fee for insertion of the VRLAC to be paid in addition to the global payment associated with the labor and delivery encounter. The MCOs will provide further communication to their network providers on the billing and policy changes and its effective date of coverage.

TennCare supports the MCOs' decision to work together to implement the billing policy changes that will increase access to VRLAC devices for our members. These policies are in line with recommendations from the medical literature. In August 2016, the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG) recommended that immediate postpartum long-acting reversible contraception be made available as an effective option for postpartum contraception. ACOG cited several clinical benefits to the use of VRLAC devices and their recommendation has been supported by the American College of Nurse-Midwives, the Society for Maternal-Fetal Medicine, the American Academy of Family Physicians, and the Association of Women's Health, Obstetric and Neonatal Nurses.

Please reach out to your respective MCO representative should you have any questions or require additional support.