

**NOTICE OF INTENT**

**Department of Health  
Bureau of Health Services Financing**

**Pregnant Women Extended Services  
Tobacco Cessation Counseling  
(LAC 50:XV.16303)**

The Department of Health, Bureau of Health Services Financing proposes to amend LAC 50:16303 in the Medical Assistance Program as authorized by R.S. 36:254 and pursuant to Title XIX of the Social Security Act. This proposed Rule is promulgated in accordance with the provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act, R.S. 49:950 et seq.

The Department of Health, Bureau of Health Services Financing amended the provisions governing extended services for pregnant women in order to implement tobacco cessation services mandated by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (*Louisiana Register*, Volume 46, Number 2). The department now proposes to amend the provisions governing tobacco cessation counseling for pregnant women in order to allow additional sessions in excess of established service limits when deemed medically necessary.

**Title 50**

**PUBLIC HEALTH-MEDICAL ASSISTANCE**

**Part XV. Services for Special Populations**

**Subpart 13. Pregnant Women Extended Services**

**Chapter 163. Substance Use Screening and Intervention Services**

### **§16303. Scope of Services**

A. - B. ...

C. Service Limits. Substance use screening and intervention services shall be limited to one occurrence per pregnancy, or once every 270 days. Pregnant women may also receive up to eight tobacco cessation counseling sessions per year. Limits may be exceeded, based on medical necessity.

C.1. - D. ...

1. Pregnant women may receive four counseling sessions per quit attempt, up to two quit attempts per calendar year. Limits may be exceeded, based on medical necessity. The period of coverage for these services shall include the prenatal period through 60 days postpartum. Services shall be provided:

a. - b.ii. ...

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 36:254 and Title XIX of the Social Security Act.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Bureau of Health Services Financing, LR 40:794 (April 2014), amended by the Department of Health, Bureau of Health Services Financing, LR 46:184 (February 2020), LR 46:

### **§16305. Reimbursement Methodology**

A. Reimbursement for substance use screening and intervention services provided to pregnant women shall be a flat

fee based on the appropriate current procedural terminology (CPT) code.

1. ~~No reimbursement shall be made in excess of the established service limits.~~ Repealed.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 36:254 and Title XIX of the Social Security Act.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Bureau of Health Services Financing, LR 40:795 (April 2014), amended by the Department of Health, Bureau of Health Services Financing, LR 46:184 (February 2020), LR 46:

#### **Family Impact Statement**

In compliance with Act 1183 of the 1999 Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature, the impact of this proposed Rule on the family has been considered. It is anticipated that this proposed Rule will have a positive impact on family functioning, stability or autonomy as described in R.S. 49:972 by reducing prenatal complications and childhood health problems associated with maternal use of tobacco and other substances.

#### **Poverty Impact Statement**

In compliance with Act 854 of the 2012 Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature, the poverty impact of this proposed Rule has been considered. It is anticipated that this proposed Rule will have a positive impact on child, individual, or family

poverty in relation to individual or community asset development as described in R.S. 49:973 as it is expected to reduce prenatal complications associated with maternal use of tobacco and other substances.

#### **Small Business Analysis**

In compliance with Act 820 of the 2008 Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature, the economic impact of this proposed Rule on small businesses has been considered. It is anticipated that this proposed Rule will have no impact on small businesses, as described in R.S. 49:965.2 et seq.

#### **Provider Impact Statement**

In compliance with House Concurrent Resolution (HCR) 170 of the 2014 Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature, the provider impact of this proposed Rule has been considered. It is anticipated that this proposed Rule will have no impact on the staffing level requirements or qualifications required to provide the same level of service, but may reduce the total direct and indirect cost to the provider to provide the same level of service, and may enhance the provider's ability to provide the same level of service as described in HCR 170 since this proposed Rule may increase payments to providers of substance use screening and intervention services.

#### **Public Comments**

Interested persons may submit written comments to Erin Campbell, Bureau of Health Services Financing, P.O. Box 91030, Baton Rouge, LA 70821-9030. Ms. Campbell is responsible for responding to inquiries regarding this proposed Rule. The deadline for submitting written comments is at 4:30 p.m. on May 30, 2020.

Interested persons may submit a written request to conduct a public hearing by U.S. mail to the Office of the Secretary ATTN: LDH Rulemaking Coordinator, Post Office Box 629, Baton Rouge, LA 70821-0629; however, such request must be received no later than 4:30 p.m. on May 11, 2020. If the criteria set forth in R.S. 49:953(A)(2)(a) are satisfied, LDH will conduct a public hearing at 9:30 a.m. on May 28, 2020 in Room 118 of the Bienville Building, which is located at 628 North Fourth Street, Baton Rouge, LA. To confirm whether or not a public hearing will be held, interested persons should first call Allen Enger at (225) 342-1342 after May 11, 2020. If a public hearing is to be held, all interested persons are invited to attend and present data, views, comments, or arguments, orally or in writing. In the event of a hearing, parking is available to the public in the Galvez Parking Garage, which is located between North Sixth and North Fifth/North and Main Streets (cater-corner from the Bienville Building). Validated parking for the Galvez

Garage may be available to public hearing attendees when the parking ticket is presented to LDH staff at the hearing.

Stephen R. Russo, JD

Interim Secretary