



TO: Physicians, Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (APRNs), Physician Assistants (PAs) and Certified Nurse Midwives (CNMs)

RE: Obstetrics Pay for Performance

The Department of Social Services (DSS) is instituting an abbreviated eighth cycle of the Pay for Performance (P4P) in obstetrical care program for individuals covered under the HUSKY Health program beginning with dates of service July 1, 2023 until November 30, 2023.

DSS is offering an abbreviated cycle OBP4P of five months until November 30, 2023 (which is intentionally one month before the launch of the maternity bundled payment to give providers more time to complete the forms). If you are participating in the current seventh cycle of the OBP4P, please continue to enter OB notification forms for obstetrical services through November 30, 2023.

The aim of the P4P program is to improve pregnancy outcomes and the overall care of pregnant individuals while decreasing the incidence of avoidable maternal mortality and morbidity through:

- Encouraging early entry into prenatal care.
- Identifying risk factors contributing to maternal morbidity and mortality.
- Increasing engagement in postpartum and ongoing primary care.
- Encouraging the use of low-dose aspirin prophylaxis for members at high or moderate risk of preeclampsia as recommended by the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG).
- Encouraging the use of self-measured blood pressure devices for pregnant members with hypertension.

As a reminder, obstetrical P4P payments are in addition to current fee-for-service payments.

Providers eligible to participate in the P4P program must be enrolled in the Connecticut Medical Assistance Program (CMAP) either as a family medicine physician, obstetrician/gynecologist, obstetric nurse practitioner, family medicine nurse practitioner, physician assistant, or certified nurse midwife **and** be providing obstetric care.

To be eligible for P4P payments, obstetrical services must be performed by eligible providers on dates of service July 1, 2023 through November 30, 2023. Only episodes of care for which eligible providers have completed online obstetrics (OB) notification forms will be eligible for the P4P program.

P4P Prenatal Performance Measures

DSS will base P4P payments on the following performance measures (with their associated point values):

Prenatal Measures	Points
Completion of the prenatal online notification form within 14 days of the first prenatal visit.	5
First prenatal visit and risk identification within 14 days of a confirmed pregnancy, where at a minimum all of the following have occurred: 1. Maternal risk screening, including but not limited to: • Blood pressure check • Evaluation for co-morbidities including: ○ Cardiovascular disease ○ Diabetes	30



<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Hypertension ○ Clotting disorders <p>2. Assessment of social determinants of health</p>	
--	--

<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Their diagnosis, 2. Type of cuff, and 3. The length of time needed (e.g., lifetime). <p>The HUSKY Health member will present this prescription to any pharmacy that carries durable medical equipment (DME). Prior authorization is not required.</p>	
--	--

Prenatal Measures	Points
<p>3. Low-dose aspirin prophylaxis for members at high or moderate risk of preeclampsia according to ACOG guidelines.</p> <p>To meet this measure, both of the following must have occurred:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A prescription for low-dose aspirin was given • Low-dose aspirin was prescribed between 12 and 28 weeks of gestation (optimally before 16 weeks) and continued daily until delivery 	25
<p>Self-measured blood pressure (BP) checks were performed by members with hypertension in addition to BP checks during perinatal care visits and provider measured BP.</p> <p>To meet this measure, a prescription for a BP monitoring device must be issued and filled by the member.</p> <p>Any HUSKY Health member with a diagnosis of hypertension may obtain a blood pressure cuff for self-monitoring. As with the aspirin, all that is needed is a prescription indicating:</p>	25

P4P Postpartum Performance Measures

Postpartum Measures	Points
Full term (39 weeks gestation), vaginal delivery	50
Completion of the postpartum online notification form within 14 days of the first occurring postpartum visit	5
At least one postpartum visit occurring within 21 days of delivery.	15

Postpartum Measures	Points
<p>A comprehensive postpartum visit occurring between 22 and 84 days after delivery that addresses all of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Future pregnancy planning • Contraceptive options/choices • Ongoing medical conditions • Behavioral health issues • Substance use/misuse 	15

DSS will collect data from claims and the online OB notification forms to determine the provider P4P payments. Payments will be made annually after allowing for six (6) months of claims run out.



Provider P4P Enrollment

Providers who are currently enrolled in the P4P program will continue to have access to the P4P notification form on the HUSKY Health secure provider portal. Providers who were not previously enrolled in the P4P program can enroll in the program by completing an obstetric P4P registration form. Providers can access the secure P4P registration form at:

<http://www.huskyhealthct.org/providers.html>.

To ensure adequate time, seventh cycle service period (July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023) notification forms must be submitted by July 31, 2023. For the eighth cycle service period (July 1, 2023 - November 30, 2023), notification forms must be submitted by December 31, 2023.

Upcoming Changes to the OBP4P Program

DSS will transition to a bundled payment model for reimbursement of the maternal care for HUSKY Health members beginning the 1st quarter of 2024. DSS will continue to monitor the launch of the bundled payment and the OBP4P program will sunset once the bundled payment launches.

Goals of the Maternity Bundle Payment Model

The HUSKY Health program has a strong commitment to remedying historical disparities in maternity care. The goal of the maternity bundle payment model is to resolve these disparities ensuring health equity for all pregnant individuals and their newborns. To learn more about the upcoming maternity bundle and monitor the progress of its implementation go to:

<https://tinyurl.com/yuz9erk4>.

To learn more about bundled payments and view a video discussing DSS's plan for the maternity bundle go to:

<https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/Departments-and-Agencies/DSS/Health-and-Home->

[Care/HUSKY-Maternity-Bundle/Husky-Bundled-Payments.jpg?sc_lang=en&hash=EAE3AE753EFC253D416C9D25D1975F11](https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/Departments-and-Agencies/DSS/Health-and-Home-Care/HUSKY-Maternity-Bundle/Husky-Bundled-Payments.jpg?sc_lang=en&hash=EAE3AE753EFC253D416C9D25D1975F11).

For questions related to the maternity bundle, please contact:

Fatmata Williams RN, BSN, MPH, C.H.E.S
Director of Integrated Care Unit
Division of Health Services -DSS
Email: fatmata.williams@ct.gov
Phone: 860-242-5181

For questions related to the obstetrics P4P program, please contact DSS's Medical Administrative Services Organization, Community Health Network of Connecticut, Inc. (CHNCT) at: obp4pquestion@chnct.org.