



MEPD and TW Bulletin 24-06

Date: July 1, 2024

To: Eligibility Services Supervisors and Staff
Program Managers
Regional Directors
Regional Attorneys
Hearings Officers

From: Access and Eligibility Services Program Policy
State Office 2106

Subject: CHIP Perinatal (CHIP-P) and Emergency Medicaid during the Pregnancy and 12-Month Postpartum Period

The information in this bulletin will be included in a future handbook revision. Until the handbook is updated, staff must use the information in this bulletin. If you have any questions regarding the policy information in this bulletin, follow regional procedures.

Active bulletins are posted on the following websites:

- [Medicaid for the Elderly and People with Disabilities Handbook \(MEPDH\)](https://hhs.texas.gov/laws-regulations/handbooks/mepd/policy-bulletins) at <https://hhs.texas.gov/laws-regulations/handbooks/mepd/policy-bulletins>
- [Texas Works Handbook \(TWH\)](https://hhs.texas.gov/laws-regulations/handbooks/texas-works-handbook/texas-works-bulletins) at <https://hhs.texas.gov/laws-regulations/handbooks/texas-works-handbook/texas-works-bulletins>.

CHIP Perinatal and Emergency Medicaid During the Pregnancy and 12-Month Postpartum Period

Background

CHIP perinatal (CHIP-P) provides medical services related to the unborn child of a pregnant woman who is not eligible for Medicaid due to income or immigration status. Women certified for CHIP-P must apply for Medicaid for Pregnant Women-Emergency (TP 36) or Medically Needy with Spend Down-Emergency (TP 32) to receive coverage for labor and delivery services and to cover any emergency medical conditions unrelated to the pregnancy.

With the implementation of House Bill (H.B.) 12 on March 1, 2024, 12 months of postpartum coverage is provided to women receiving Medicaid at the time their pregnancy ends, including women certified for TP 32 and TP 36. Pregnant women certified for CHIP-P only are not eligible for 12 months of postpartum coverage. Concurrent CHIP-P and TP 36 or TP 32 coverage is allowed.

Current Policy

[CHIP-P \(TA 85\), Medicaid for Pregnant Women-Emergency \(TP 36\) and Medically Needy with Spend Down-Emergency \(TP 32\)](#)

Women certified for CHIP-P must apply for TP 36 or TP 32 to receive coverage for emergency medical conditions unrelated to the pregnancy. Pregnant women may receive TP 36 or TP 32 in the same month as CHIP-P. ([TWH D-110](#), General Policy)

Current Process

Currently, the Texas Integrated Eligibility Redesign System (TIERS) is not allowing pregnant women to be certified for CHIP-P and TP 36 or TP 32 at the same time.

Staff must follow Contingency Processing Method (CPM) 1260681, Allowing Concurrent Medicaid for Pregnant Women-Emergency (TP 36) and CHIP Perinatal (TA 85) Coverage, to ensure eligible women receive appropriate CHIP-P and TP 36 coverage.

New Policy

[CHIP-P \(TA 85\) and Medicaid for Pregnant Women-Emergency \(TP 36\)](#)

Concurrent CHIP-P and TP 36 Coverage

For households with income at or below 198% of the Federal Poverty Limit (FPL), when an application is received with a report of pregnancy along with a Form H3038, Emergency Medical Services Certification, for an emergency event unrelated to labor and delivery, certify TP 36 effective the date of the emergency event,

through the pregnancy and 12-month postpartum period; and certify CHIP-P coverage according to current policy and processes, if eligible.

When an application is received for a woman already receiving CHIP-P coverage along with a Form H3038 for an emergency event unrelated to labor and delivery, certify TP 36 effective the date of the emergency event, through the pregnancy and the 12-month postpartum period. Maintain the current CHIP-P certification period.

When an application is received with a report of a new pregnancy or a new pregnancy is reported as a change without an application for a woman already receiving TP 36 coverage in her postpartum period for a previous pregnancy, certify CHIP-P coverage for the new pregnancy according to current policy and processes, if eligible; and maintain the existing TP 36 coverage through the 12-month postpartum period.

Note: CHIP-P policy is not changing. CHIP-P coverage ends on the last day of the pregnancy termination month. TP 36 coverage continues through the end of the 12-month postpartum period.

If a woman does not provide a Form H3038 for an emergency event during her CHIP-P certification period but provides Form H3038-P, CHIP Perinatal – Emergency Medical Services Certification, for labor and delivery services, then certify TP 36 coverage effective the date of the emergency event through the 12-month postpartum period.

[CHIP-P \(TA 85\) and Medically Needy with Spend Down-Emergency \(TP 32\)](#)

Concurrent CHIP-P and TP 32 Coverage

When an application is received with a report of pregnancy along with a Form H3038 for an emergency event unrelated to labor and delivery, and the woman is above the income limit for TP 36 but qualifies for TP 32 due to unpaid medical bills, and the spend down amount is met, certify TP 32 effective the date of the emergency event through the pregnancy and 12-month postpartum period; and certify CHIP-P coverage according to current policy and processes, if eligible.

When an application is received for a woman already receiving CHIP-P coverage along with Form H3038 for an emergency event unrelated to labor and delivery, and the woman is above the income limit for TP 36 but qualifies for TP 32 due to unpaid medical bills, and the spend down amount is met, certify TP 32 effective the date of the emergency event through the pregnancy and 12-month postpartum period; and maintain her current CHIP-P certification period.

When an application is received with a report of a new pregnancy or a new pregnancy is reported as a change without an application for a woman already receiving TP 32 coverage in her postpartum period for a previous pregnancy, certify CHIP-P coverage for the new pregnancy according to current policy and processes, if eligible; and maintain the existing TP 32 coverage through the 12-month postpartum period.

Note: CHIP-P policy is not changing. CHIP-P coverage ends on the last day of the pregnancy termination month. TP 32 coverage continues through the end of the 12-month postpartum period.

If a woman does not provide a Form H3038 for an emergency event during her CHIP-P certification period but provides a Form H3038 for labor and delivery services, and the spend down amount is met, certify TP 32 coverage effective the date of the emergency event through the 12-month postpartum period.

Automation

Changes to TIERS are currently scheduled to be implemented with TIERS Release 117.3 on July 20, 2024.

CPM 1260681 will be retired once automation changes are implemented. Staff should follow current processes for merging CHIP-P and TP 36 cases back together at redetermination, if eligible.

Correspondence

Correspondence changes are not required.

Handbook

The TWH is currently scheduled to be updated in the January 2025 revision.

Updates to the MEPDH are not required.

Training

Training will be made available in Program Area Learning Management System (PALMS) titled R117.3 General Information on July 11, 2024. A training broadcast will be sent with further details.

Effective Date

This policy is effective with the implementation of TIERS Release 117.3 currently scheduled for July 20, 2024.