

South Carolina  
**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**  
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PHY-PC-OG 08-05

# MEDICAID BULLETIN

**TO: Providers Indicated**

**SUBJECT: Obstetrical Ultrasound Coverage**

The South Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (SCDHHS) notified you of a change to its obstetrical ultrasound policy in a bulletin dated March 28, 2007, which allowed for two complete ultrasounds per pregnancy beginning June 1, 2007. Additional ultrasounds could be approved if supporting documentation was attached to the claim clearly indicating that the service provided was medically necessary.

In an effort to address many of the concerns raised by Obstetrics and Gynecology (OB/GYN) and Maternal Fetal Medicine (MFM) specialists, SCDHHS consulted with physicians regarding solutions to the limits on ultrasound coverage. Effective **June 1, 2008**, the SCDHHS will update its policy to allow three obstetrical ultrasounds per pregnancy for OB/GYN providers. As with the previous policy, additional ultrasounds may be approved if supporting documentation is attached to the claim clearly indicating that the service provided is medically necessary. Multiple gestations billed with the Current Procedural Terminology (CPT) add-on codes 76802, 76810, and 76812 will be counted as one ultrasound if billed on the same claim with primary CPT codes 76801, 76805, and 76811 respectively.

For MFM providers, there will no longer be a limit placed on the number of ultrasounds that can be submitted for reimbursement. However, all ultrasounds provided by MFM specialists should have documentation to support medical necessity in the patient record.

Ultrasound services that appear to fall outside of the best practice guidelines are subject to post payment review by the Division of Program Integrity to ensure compliance with policy.

If you have any questions regarding this bulletin, please contact your Program Manager, at (803) 898-2660. Thank you for your continued support and participation in the South Carolina Medicaid Program.

/s/

Emma Forkner  
Director

EF/mgwd

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