

COMMENTS REGARDING MHN to MCO SPA:

"I suggest that all newborns should be assigned to the Fee-For-Services plan. Pediatricians then tell their mothers which plan they accept during the office visit and ask the mothers to call 1-877-552-4642 to choose the plan accordingly.

With FFS plan, the baby can be readily treated by a local pediatrician for his/her sickness and for immunizations. Those services will be delayed if the local pediatrician does not accept the newborn's assigned managed care plan. Additionally, some mothers may have a transportation problem or they are too busy to drive out of town. These patients can be treated locally by the pediatricians who take walk-in patients for sickness and immunizations".

SCDHHS Response:

Thank you for submitting a comment regarding the proposed Managed Care public notice. It is not necessary to assign newborns to Fee-For-Service (FFS) because all health plans are required to reimburse any services rendered in the first 60 days after discharge, regardless of the situation. If there is an issue with newborn enrollment, health plans can complete the Newborn Enrollment Error Notification form located on SCDHHS' website at www.scdhhs.gov. Also located on the SCDHHS website is a Universal Newborn Prior Authorization form that out-of-network pediatric providers must complete to obtain authorization for services rendered in the office during the first 60 days after discharge. Authorization should be requested by the close of the next business day after services were rendered to the newborn. The South Carolina Department of Health and Human Services will post your comment and this reply on its website, which is listed above. Thanks again for your input.