

**South Carolina Department of Health and Human Services
Medical Care Advisory Committee
Item for Committee Advise ment**

PREPARED BY: Valeria Williams

PRESENTED BY: Melanie “Bz” Giese

DATE: May 7, 2013

SUBJECT: Coverage for Licensed Dietitian

OBJECTIVE: To enroll licensed Dietitians and implement payment methodology

BACKGROUND: In support of the Agencies Obesity management initiative the agency will cover medical nutrition therapy provided by a licensed Dietitian when it is prescribed by a physician. The licensed Dietitian will be responsible for assessing the person’s overall nutritional status, assigning an individualized diet, and counseling.

BUDGETARY IMPACT: The estimated fiscal impact will be \$5 - \$8 million total annually.

EXPECTED OUTCOMES: To improve the overall health outcome of Medicaid beneficiaries.

EXTERNAL GROUPS AFFECTED: All physicians that provide primary care

RECOMMENDATION: Amend State Plan with appropriate language and make necessary system updates to ensure compliance.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2013