

Provider Manual

Section 13.0

Obstetrical

Table of Contents

13.1 Overview

13.2 Mommy Steps Program

13.3 Member Access and/or Authorization Requirements

13.4 Obstetrical Provider Responsibilities



13.0 Obstetrical

13.1 Overview

Passport recognizes that access to effective prenatal and postpartum care provides a strong foundation for the health of women, as well as improving birth outcomes. As a result, Passport's Mommy Steps Program (a dedicated team of perinatal nurses and support staff) work with obstetrical clinicians, local health departments, home health agencies, and others to identify the psychosocial, nutritional and educational needs of pregnant members. Once these needs are identified, Mommy Steps staff provides coordination of these services for our members.

Passport's specialized maternal and newborn nurses work to support the physician's plan of care, which may include additional health education, referrals to Women, Infant & Children (WIC) Smoking Cessation Programs, Substance Abuse Treatment Referrals, or Behavioral Health Counseling Referrals.

Our goal is to empower pregnant women to become more educated and responsible for their health and the decisions that impact their overall well-being. By partnering with providers and educating members, we can decrease the rate of prematurity, infant mortality, low birth weight and very low birth weight babies.

13.2 Mommy Steps Program

Mommy Steps nurses are available to assist members and obstetrical providers with questions. They can be reached at (877) 903-0082 or via fax at (502) 585-7970 Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. EST (excluding business approved holidays).

In addition, each newly identified pregnant member will receive a welcome packet to the program that includes: education materials about prenatal care (including coverage for classes conducted by certified prenatal educators), community resources, domestic violence support, dental and vision services, legal assistance contacts, and transportation service contact information. High risk pregnant members receive additional education and guidance from one of our Perinatal Nurse Case Managers.

Participation in the Mommy Steps Program, as with all Case Management Programs, is voluntary, and the member has the right to decline any or all parts of the program.

13.3 Member Access and/or Authorization Requirements

All components of obstetrical care are directly accessible by members including testing and prenatal care. Appointment standards must be provided for prenatal care as follows:

- 1st Trimester-within 14 business days of request.
- 2nd Trimester-within 7 business days of request.
- 3rd Trimester-within 3 business days of request.
- High-risk pregnancies-within 1 business day of the identification of a high-risk condition or immediately if an emergency exists.

In addition, authorizations for referrals to Maternal Fetal Medicine specialists, geneticists, and endocrinologists are not required for high risk conditions evaluation and treatment during pregnancy.

Maternity observation stays do not require authorizations. These are defined as a hospital stay of 23 hours or less for the observation of members with medical conditions related to pregnancy. Only 23-hours of observation is covered at a single encounter. For additional lengths of stay (over 23 hours) to be covered, inpatient stays must be authorized.

13.4 Responsibility of Providers

Follow the Passport Clinical Practice Guideline for Perinatal Care which was adopted from the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG).

OB providers should:

- Please fax the [Pregnancy Notification Form](#) to Mommy Steps at (502) 585-7970 within seven (7) business days of the initial prenatal visit (or determination of Passport membership/eligibility, whichever is later.)
- Submit the initial prenatal risk assessment/medical and obstetrical history within one week of the initial prenatal visit. An [ACOG](#) (or ACOG like) form containing this information should be faxed to the Passport Mommy Steps Program at (502) 585-7970. It is the responsibility of the provider to confirm that the [ACOG](#) (or ACOG-like) form has been received by Mommy Steps, if they assume the care of a member from another provider. This should be received by Passport Mommy Steps Program within 7 business days of the initial evaluation (or determination of Passport membership/eligibility, whichever is later.)
- Submit the Universal Cervical Length Screening Form (performed between 16-24 weeks gestation.) via fax to (502) 585-7970. Universal Cervical Length Screening can be completed via physical exam or transvaginal ultrasound. For reimbursement of cervical length screening, providers should submit a claim. The claim should be filed as soon as possible following the screening evaluation. Please see [Cervical Length Coding Procedures](#) for assistance.
- Birth statistics should be reported for each delivery within 7 business days of delivery. This information should include: member name, member Passport ID #, facility, date of delivery, delivery route, gestational age, birth weight, gender, 1 minute Apgar and 5 minute Apgar, living status: alive/fetal demise, delivering clinician name, delivering clinician NPI#, any complications of pregnancy, delivery, or the postpartum period.
- Schedule a postpartum visit for the period of 21-56 days post-delivery. Ideally, scheduling should be done no later than discharge from the hospital following delivery. In addition, for patients who are at risk for complications or are post-operative from Cesarean Section, an additional visit should be scheduled for the member to be seen 7 to 14 days post-

operatively. Submit documentation of the postpartum visit including the member's choice of contraceptive. If the member elects to have a tubal ligation, the surgical permit must be signed 30 days prior to the procedure.

- Contact the Mommy Steps Program if the member's risk status or condition changes in any way during pregnancy, labor and delivery, or postpartum.
- Direct members to their PCP for the evaluation and treatment of conditions not related to pregnancy.
- Coordinate care with the member's PCP or other treatment clinicians as appropriate.
- Notify the Mommy Steps Program via fax within two business days of all missed prenatal appointments. Passport must receive the initial prenatal risk assessment/medical and obstetrical history on file prior to the missed appointment in order for payment to be made to the physician for the No Show. This process is outlined in the fee schedule for No Show visits.