

Plan First: Frequently Asked Provider Questions:

Covered Services

Contraception

Q: Is an ultrasound to check on an IUD covered by Plan First?

A: Yes, it is covered.

Q: Is removal of an IUD covered?

A: Yes, it is covered.

Q: What are the limits for prescribing condoms?

A: The monthly prescription limit for condoms, if dispensed by a practitioner or clinic, is 90 (3/day x 30 days). The monthly prescription limit for condoms, if dispensed by a pharmacy, is 34 (34 day limit).

Q: Can female condoms be prescribed for men and male condoms prescribed for women?

A: As long as the member has a prescription, DMAS will reimburse for both male and female condoms without any gender specifications.

Q: Will Plan First cover oral contraceptives and condoms prescribed at the same time for an enrolled member?

A: Yes.

Q: Are emergency contraceptives covered by Plan First?

A: Emergency contraceptives are covered by Plan First with a prescription.

Q: Will Plan First cover emergency contraception and the first pack of oral contraceptives within the same 34-day period for a member?

A: Yes, with a prescription.

Q: Does a Plan First enrollee need a prescription from a Medicaid provider (e.g. for oral contraceptives or NuvaRing) in order for the contraceptives to be covered?

A: No, the prescription does **not** have to be written by a Medicaid-enrolled health care provider.

Q: If Plan First covers IUDs, why are no IUDs on the Preferred Drug List (PDL)?

A: IUDs are considered part of the medical (vs. pharmacy) benefit, which is why they do not appear on the PDL. The provider needs to purchase the IUD up-front and will be reimbursed for the full cost of the IUD after its insertion ("buy & bill" method).

Q: Will Plan First cover oral contraceptives for a woman while waiting for insertion of an IUD and have both the oral contraceptives and IUD covered?

A: Yes, with a prescription.

Pregnancy Tests

Q: Is there a limit on the number of pregnancy tests that can be performed in a year?

A: No, there is no limit.

Q: Will Plan First pay for a pregnancy test when ordered - before birth control is dispensed?

A: Yes. The pregnancy test will be covered under Plan First as long as the code used is on the list of approved codes.

Testing and Treatment

Q: Is there an age limit for STI testing (for example only testing people under age 26)?

A: There is no age limit on codes for STI testing and no limit on frequency of testing.

Q: Is treatment of a reproductive health problem discovered during the course of a family planning visit (e.g. yeast infection) covered?

A: No, treatment is not covered.

Q: Will Plan First cover a Pap Smear for an enrollee who is not interested in family planning or contraception?

A: A Pap Smear is covered as long as it is done in context of a family planning/pregnancy prevention-focused visit. The patient has to have some conversation with her practitioner about pregnancy prevention (e.g. contraception discussion or natural family planning). If it is a problem-focused visit and no discussion of family planning, the Pap Smear will not be covered. Someone who has had her tubes tied is no longer fertile would fall into this category.

Services for Men

Q: What is covered for men?

A: Men can get their annual physical and STI testing if performed in the context of family planning, i.e. pregnancy prevention must be discussed. Plan First also covers condoms and vasectomies.

Q: Does Plan First cover the Prostate Specific Antigen (PSA) test for men?

A: The PSA test is not covered, but Plan First does cover the physical exam – if done in context of family planning.

Sterilization Procedures

Q: Will Plan First cover sterilization performed during the 3-month retroactive period?

A: Sterilization is covered only if all applicable requirements are met at the time the operation is performed. If a patient obtains retroactive Program coverage, previously provided sterilization services cannot be billed unless all the applicable requirements have been met.

Q: If a woman has an emergency C-section and then has her tubes tied, will Plan First cover?

A: She should apply for retroactive coverage under Medicaid as a pregnant woman to see if she is eligible to cover her C-section as well as her sterilization. If her income is over 133%, however, she could only be evaluated for a Medically Needy Spend-down. If she is already enrolled in Plan First, the worker could evaluate/process her request for pregnancy coverage as a change.

To cover a sterilization retroactively – if performed at the time of emergency abdominal surgery or premature delivery – the following must occur:

- The patient signed the sterilization informed consent form at least 30 days before the *intended* date of sterilization; and
- At least 72 hours passed between when the informed consent was signed and the emergency surgery was performed.

Q: *Is there a list of providers who perform bilateral tubal ligations?*

A. DMAS has a list of Plan First providers but not specifically who performs sterilizations. Any enrolled DMAS provider who performs sterilizations can provide sterilization services for a Plan First member.

Q: *Does Plan First cover family planning visits after sterilization?*

A: After the confirmation test has been performed, the provider cannot code a visit as family planning – so no services can be covered.

Q: *Is the confirmation appointment following sterilization a covered service?*

A: Yes, the confirmation appointment is a covered service; however, once confirmed, family planning is no longer necessary and therefore there are no other covered services under Plan First. (See “Billing”)

Q: *A 50 year old patient on Plan First who is still menstruating requested a tubal ligation. Does the woman’s age make her ineligible for the procedure?*

A: Age has to be at least 21 years old and over. No upper age limit. Because this woman could still get pregnant, the tubal ligation is appropriate and would be covered under Plan First. As long as the provider attaches the appropriate consent forms to the claim for the sterilization and associated labs, it will be covered.

Transportation

Q: *Is transportation to pick up contraceptives covered – even to a health department?*

A: Yes, it is covered. Use the LogistiCare number to schedule the ride(s) at (866) 386-8331.

For complete information about Plan First covered services, go to http://dmasva.dmas.virginia.gov/Content_pgs/mch-home.aspx