



Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene

201 W. Preston Street • Baltimore, Maryland 21201

Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr., Governor – Michael S. Steele, Lt. Governor – Nelson J. Sabatini, Secretary

**MARYLAND MEDICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM
GENERAL PROVIDER TRANSMITTAL NO: 59**

June 26, 2003

All Providers
Pharmacists**FROM:**
Susan Tucker, Executive Director
Office of Health ServicesMaryland Children's Health Program, MCHP Premium, and Maryland Family
Planning Program Changes**NOTE:****Please share this transmittal with all appropriate members of your
organization****MCHP and MCHP Premium**

In Fiscal Year 2004, the State of Maryland is making important changes to the Maryland Children's Health Program (MCHP) and MCHP Premium.

- Effective July 1, 2003, MCHP Premium will not enroll any new participants with family income between 200% and 300% of the Federal Poverty Level. Children with family income between 200% and 300% of the Federal Poverty Level will not be able to re-enroll in MCHP Premium if their eligibility ends. Therefore, it is important that the annual renewal application be completed and returned on time. Please encourage your MCHP Premium clients to complete their annual renewal applications and pay their premiums on time to assure continued coverage of their children.
- Effective July 1, 2003, children participating in MCHP Premium who are enrolled in Employer-Sponsored Insurance (ESI) will no longer receive secondary insurance coverage for co-payments, deductibles, and co-insurance. Therefore, all MCHP Premium secondary insurance claims for co-payments, deductibles, and co-insurance will be denied for payment by the MCHP Premium Program for services rendered on or after July 1, 2003.



Effective September 1, 2003, children with family income between 185% and 200% of the Federal Poverty Level will have to pay a monthly premium of \$37 per family in order to begin or maintain enrollment in MCHP Premium and receive HealthChoice coverage.

There will be no other changes to service delivery.

If you have questions about these changes to MCHP or MCHP Premium please contact the Maryland Children's Health Program at (410) 767-6890.

Maryland Family Planning Program

In Fiscal Year 2004 Maryland is changing the Maryland Family Planning Program.

- Effective July 1, 2003, women enrolled in the Maryland Family Planning Program after delivery will lose coverage should their family income exceed 250% of the Federal Poverty Level.

There will be no other changes to service delivery.

If you have questions about this change to the Maryland Family Planning Program please call the Division of Outreach and Care Coordination at 1 (800) 456-8900.

Given these changes to MCHP, MCHP Premium, and the Maryland Family Planning Program, please verify your patients' eligibility through Maryland's eligibility verification system (EVS), which can be reached at (410) 333-3020 or 1 (800) 492-2134.