

### Overview

- Reimbursement for Lactation Services as an FQHC – The Santa Barbara County Story
- What is a Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC)?
- Steps to bill for BF through CPSP as an FQHC
- CPSP stands for Comprehensive Perinatal Services Program

### Reimbursement for Lactation Services as an FQHC – The Santa Barbara County Story

- County funding for Lactation Services was maintained in a difficult economic environment
- Due to advocacy by the Breastfeeding Coalition in 2004, the program remained
- Permanent funding would need to be obtained in the future



### What is a Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC)

- A **Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC)** is a reimbursement designation in the [United States](#) and includes:
- [Community Health Centers](#) which serve a variety of Federally designated (MUA or MUP)
- Serve migrant and seasonal agricultural workers,
- Reach out to homeless individuals and families and provide primary and preventive care and substance abuse services, and
- Serve residents of public housing and are located in or adjacent to the communities they serve

### Santa Barbara County Public Health Department a FQHC

- FQHC's bill Medi-Cal at a higher rate
- Every FQHC has a different rate
- In Jan 2006, regulations changed & allowed mid level providers to bill at this higher rate including RDs & Health Educators.

### Steps to Provide Billable Services for BF through CPSP as an FQHC (1)

- Contact CPSP Perinatal Services Coordinator Directory by County  
<http://www.cdph.ca.gov/PROGRAMS/CPSP/Pages/CPSPPerinatalServicesCoordinators.aspx#s>
- **Santa Barbara County Health Dept (42)**  
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### Steps to Provide Billable Services (2)

- CPSP Dual Provider Agreement (DPA)
- <http://www.cdph.ca.gov/HealthInfo/healthyiving/childfamily/Documents/MO-PL9901-December1999DualProviderModelCPSP.pdf>
- Dual Provider Agreement must be set up between the CPSP agency seeing the client and the CPSP site they came from. The PHD set up DPA's with 10 CPSP sites within the County
- County CPSP Coordinator will help you set this up and has to be approved by the State CPSP Program – Candice Zimmerman (916) 650-0372 or Lorraine Cardena (916) 650-0371
- Santa Barbara County PHD also had to approve the Dual Provider Agreement

### Steps to Provide Billable Services (3)

- CPSP is a program for pregnant and postpartum woman.
- Provide billable services to the mother
- According to the "BF FAQs Medi-Cal Guidelines (January 2004), BF benefits are reimbursable under CPSP (BF2-6)

### Three Categories of Clients

- 1) Our own County CPSP clients – policies and procedures were set up
- 2) Outside CPSP clients – DPA set up with each provider / site
- 3) Private doctors (non CPSP) – MOU set up (not required). Bring these clients into our CPSP program for Lactation help. PHD physician reviews / oversees component

### Billing Codes for Mother

- 675.04 Infected Nipple, Postpartum
- 675.14 Abscess of Breast, Postpartum
- 675.24 Nonpurulent Mastitis, Postpartum
- 675.84 Other Spec. Infect. Brst/Np/le P/P
- 676.04 Retracted Nipple, Postpartum
- 676.14 Cracked Nipple, Postpartum
- 676.24 Engorgement of Breast, P/P
- 676.34 Other & Unsp. Disorder Brst, P/P
- 676.44 Failure of Lactation, Postpartum
- 676.54 Suppressed Lactation, Postpartum
- 676.84 Other Disorder of Lactation, P/P



### Steps to Provide Billable Services (4)

- Lactation Consultants (LC) are not licensed in California & can not bill independently
- Under CPSP, the LC can bill if also a CNM, nurse practitioner, RN, LVN, social worker, RD, health educator, or a Comprehensive Perinatal Health Worker (CPHW). CPHW can have a high school degree and be HE assistant with one year of perinatal experience

### Steps to Provide Billable Services as an FQHC (5)

- Do not need a TAR or MERF
- Medi-Cal does not reimburse for phone calls
- Can not be reimbursed for home visits since one has to be a nurse

### Steps to Provide Billable Services (6)

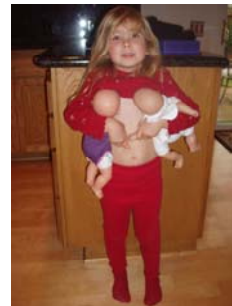
- As an FQHC, we are reimbursed equally for State Medi-Cal and Managed Medi-Cal (CenCal Health in Santa Barbara County)
- Do not receive the FQHC rate for private insurance
- Can not bill for two FQHC visits on the same day
- Clients with state Medi-Cal have to be seen within 60 days before their emergency Medi-Cal runs out

### Steps to Provide Billable Services (7)

- We fax the assessment to the obstetrician and pediatrician
- We do not need a doctor referral to see the mother
- The three LCs are partially paid by county general fund money. When we see clients for BF problems will do not code our time to WIC and thus are not double dipping.

### Conclusion

- Establishing this reimbursement system through CPSP was a slow and challenging process
- The journey is worth it. Many families receive lactation help which affects health outcomes for generations
- Last year two IBCLC (1 FTE) generated \$175,382. This year with three IBCLC's 1.5 FTE we are projecting over \$200,000 in new revenue



### Conclusion

- Breastfeeding is a Public Health Issue
- Generating new revenue for lactation is possible
- Never, never give up

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**Breastfeeding – A Public Health Issue**  
*Formula Increases the Risk of Diabetes and Obesity*  
Breastfeeding - A Social Justice Issue

