



July 2020

To our Provider Partners:

At CountyCare, we share our providers' concerns about the continued increase in maternal mortality and persistent racial disparities in health outcomes for pregnant women and babies. According to the 2018 Illinois Maternal Mortality and Morbidity Report, from 2014-2016:

✓ Black women were three times as likely to die within a year of pregnancy as women of any other race/ethnicity.

✓ Women on Medicaid during pregnancy were two and a half times as likely to die within one year of pregnancy as women with private insurance.

While disparities are the result of more than simply access to health care services, the recent COVID pandemic has presented additional challenges to accessing care and other resources.

Brighter Beginnings is CountyCare's program to support pregnant women. As part of our ongoing efforts to improve maternal child health, CountyCare is adding a new component to our program: Brighter Beginnings – Blood Pressure (BP). We've partnered with select DMEs to ensure ease of ordering blood pressure monitors for your patients (see list below).

As part of this program, CountyCare:

- covers blood pressure monitors for home use
- includes health education materials
- provides home delivery of the monitor, and
- ensures easy ordering for providers

During the COVID pandemic, we continue to encourage members to attend prenatal visits. However, Brighter Beginnings – BP can be a helpful adjunct to prenatal care and telehealth visits. Home blood pressure monitors allow women to track their own blood pressure and collaborate with their providers to identify issues earlier.



To Order a Blood Pressure Monitor for your CountyCare Patients:

- 1. Simply prescribe the blood pressure monitor for your patient** (HCPCS Code A4670, allowable once every 5 years) and provide education on how to use it, including instructions on when to call your office or seek emergency care when readings are above recommended levels. For additional HCPCS codes and allowances, [click here](#).
- 2. Order the monitor from one of CountyCare's Brighter Beginnings BP preferred DME providers** (see list below) and have it delivered to member's home.

Preferred DME Providers

Advanced Home Medical Inc.

Instructions: Fax prescription and patient demographic information to 888-518-7568.

Fax: 888-518-7568

Phone: 909-569-9013

Advanced Medical Supply Inc.

Instructions: Fill out PDF form and fax it to 630-834-2280. The item request for the blood pressure monitor should be made in the notes section.

Form: bit.ly/advancedmedsupply

Fax: 630-834-2280

Phone: 630-834-1508

Doctor's Choice Home Medical Equipment

Instructions: Fill out PDF form and fax it to 312-666-1121. Check off the Blood Monitor under "Durable Medical Equipment/Other Items."

Form: bit.ly/doctorschoicehomemed

Fax: 312-666-1121

Phone: 909-569-9013



Total Home Health

Instructions: Fill out PDF form and fax it to 773-486-5848.

Form: bit.ly/totalhomehealth

Fax: 773-486-5848

Phone: 773-486-3998

We are committed to providing you with the tools and interventions you need for stronger maternal child health outcomes.

Please share your feedback with us by emailing: providerservices@countycare.com.