

Maryland Medicaid Coverage Criteria for Breast Pumps 9/11/2014

FIRST MONTH OF LIFE for infant: MCO to cover hospital grade double electric pump for the following medically necessary reasons as a minimum:

- 1) If baby or mother are hospitalized. If baby is in the NICU longer than a month, MCO would continue providing pump for duration of NICU stay, but pump could be non-hospital grade, double electric pump after first month of life.
- 2) If mom is temporarily prescribed medications that are not compatible with breastfeeding ("pump and dump").
- 3) If baby is unable to nurse fully for reasons such as prematurity, congenital anomaly, neurological issues, or problems with being able to "latch on."
- 4) If mother has underdeveloped breasts or breast surgery, necessitating a hospital-grade electric pump to help stimulate full milk supply.
- 5) If mother is returning to work prior to baby reaching one month of age. This is a medical necessity because not providing a hospital-grade electric pump at this time will cause the mother to fail at achieving a full milk supply.

*Hospital grade pump must be provided by time of discharge of mom from hospital--delay causes mother's milk supply to diminish and could cause baby to have more difficulty with latching on and extracting milk from the breast.

AFTER FIRST MONTH OF LIFE for infant:

- 1) MCO to cover non-hospital grade pump (electric personal use pump or manual pump) for reasons that make a breast pump medically necessary (see above).
- 2) MCO is not required to provide a breast pump after first month of life for non-medical reason, including mom's return to work. MCO is encouraged to consider voluntarily providing a breast pump or can suggest mom apply to WIC where she may be able to receive a breast pump. *

*MCO may not require mom provide a denial from WIC prior to receiving a breast pump from MCO.