

## DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY

Department of Health and Hospitals  
Office of the Secretary  
Bureau of Health Services Financing

### Professional Services Program-Neonatology Services

The Department of Health and Hospitals, Office of the Secretary, Bureau of Health Services Financing, has adopted the following emergency rule in the Medical Assistance Program as authorized by R.S. 46:153 and pursuant to Title XIX of the Social Security Act. This emergency rule is adopted in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act, R.S. 49:950 et seq., and shall be in effect for the maximum period allowed under the Administrative Procedure Act or until adoption of the rule, whichever occurs first.

The Department of Health and Hospitals, Bureau of Health Services Financing reimburses neonatology services according to established per diem rates for applicable Physicians' Current Procedural Terminology (CPT) codes. Effective July 7, 1995 and October 28, 1995 (*Louisiana Register*, Volume 21, Numbers 7 and 11) the bureau reduced the per diem rates for the following procedure codes to the following amounts:

- CPT code 99295 - \$323.90
- CPT code 99296 - \$190.20
- CPT code 99297 - \$150.10
- CPT code 99297-52 ("step-down" babies) - \$60.04.

The department subsequently determined that it was necessary to make an adjustment in the above per diem rates in order to meet federal assurance requirements that there are a sufficient number of Medicaid providers for the delivery of these services. Therefore, effective January 21, 1996 the department adopted the following adjusted per diem rates for the neonatology procedure codes specified above.

Continuation of this January 1996 emergency rule is necessary to maintain the cost savings initiative for these services and thereby avoid a budget deficit in the medical assistance programs while also assuring an adequate number of providers for these services.

#### Emergency Rule

Effective for dates of service of May 19, 1996 and after, the Department of Health and Hospitals, Bureau of Health Services Financing adopts the following per diem rates for neonatology services according to the amounts listed for each of the following procedure codes:

- CPT code 99295 - \$596.46
- CPT code 99296 - \$279.52
- CPT code 99297 - \$143.42
- CPT code 99297-52 ("step-down" babies) - \$57.37

Bobby P. Jindal  
Secretary