PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE
OHIO DEPARTMENT OF MEDICAID

DATE: October 19, 2026

TIME: 11:00am

Teleconference Dial-in Phone Number: 614 721-2972

Teleconference Pin: 577234885#,

Link to Microsoft Teams Meeting for Hearing: Link to Join.

In-Person Location: 50 West Town Street Room A501, Columbus, Ohio 43215

Pursuant to Chapter 119. and section 5164.02 of the Revised Code, the Director of the Ohio Department of Medicaid (ODM) gives notice of ODM's intent to consider the amendment of the rule identified below and of a public hearing thereon.

ODM is proposing to amend Ohio Administrative Code (OAC) rule 5160-21-04. "Pregnancy Related Services" to include a provision for coverage and payment for group prenatal care models. The proposed amendment to paragraph (A)(5)(c) includes a definition of group prenatal care models. Group prenatal care models blend individual health assessments (medical visit) with group education and peer support with interactive sessions covering all aspects of pregnancy.

The group consists of a cohort of up to ten women with similar due dates with a goal of reducing preterm births, improved breastfeeding, and fostering community over isolation. Separate payment may be made with an evaluation and management (E&M) prenatal service in conjunction with health assessments up to twelve visits per pregnancy.

ODM is also proposing to update paragraph (A)(5)(d) of the rule to reflect a title change to Dietitian services in accordance with rule 5160-8-41 of the Administrative Code.

ODM will hold the public hearing for this rule package via teleconference and in-person. The date and time for the public hearing are listed at the top of this Notice as well as the phone number, PIN (access code), and link for teleconference attendance, and location for in-person attendance.

All interested parties are invited to participate in the public hearing. Both oral and written testimony will be accepted for this hearing and will be given the same consideration. Persons who want to give oral testimony are asked to send a message by e-mail to Rules@medicaid.ohio.gov no later than one hour before the hearing to be added to the witness list. Those attending in person can be added to the witness list at the hearing.

Written comments submitted in-person, by e-mail, postal mail, or fax that are received or postmarked no later than the day of the hearing will be accepted as testimony and will become part of the hearing record. All testimony will become public record; therefore, ODM asks that protected health information (PHI) be excluded. Written testimony sent by e-mail is highly recommended. All persons who submit testimony by e-mail will be sent a confirmation of receipt.

A copy of the proposed rule is available, without charge, to any person at the address listed below. The rule is also available on the internet at http://www.registerofohio.state.oh.us/. Requests for a copy of the proposed rule or comments on the rule should be submitted by mail to the Ohio Department of Medicaid, Office of Legal Counsel, 50 W. Town Street, Suite 400, Columbus, Ohio 43215-3414, by fax at (614) 995-1301, or by e-mail at Rules@Medicaid.Ohio.gov.

ODM is committed to providing access and inclusion and reasonable accommodation in its services, activities, programs, and employment opportunities in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), Title VI of the Civil Rights Act, Section 1557 of the Affordable Care Act, and other applicable laws. To request an interpreter, written information in a language other than English or in other formats (braille, large print, audio, accessible electronic formats, other formats), or a reasonable accommodation due to a disability, please contact ODM's Civil Rights/ADA Coordinator at 614-995-9981/TTY 711, Fax 1-614-644-1434, or Email: ODM_EEO_EmployeeRelations@medicaid.ohio.gov. Requests should be made at least five (5) business days prior to the scheduled hearing]. If you believe ODM has failed to provide these services or discriminated in another way, you can file a grievance with ODM's Civil Rights Coordinator or Section 1557 Coordinator and/or file a civil rights complaint with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office for Civil Rights. Further information on these processes and ODM's compliance with civil rights and other applicable laws can be found here: Notice of Nondiscrimination.