

(2) If a health maintenance organization classifies an obstetrician/gynecologist as a primary care physician as provided under paragraph (1) of this subsection, and a woman does not choose an obstetrician/gynecologist as her primary care provider, the health maintenance organization shall permit the woman to receive an annual visit to an in-network obstetrician/gynecologist for routine gynecological care without requiring the woman to first visit her primary care provider, whether or not the primary care provider is qualified to and regularly provides routine gynecological care.

~~(3) (I) A HEALTH MAINTENANCE ORGANIZATION MAY NOT LIMIT A WOMAN'S DIRECT ACCESS TO PRIMARY AND PREVENTIVE OBSTETRIC AND GYNECOLOGICAL SERVICES FROM A CERTIFIED NURSE MIDWIFE OR ANY OTHER PROVIDER AUTHORIZED UNDER THE HEALTH OCCUPATIONS ARTICLE TO PROVIDE OBSTETRIC AND GYNECOLOGICAL SERVICES.~~

~~(II) A HEALTH MAINTENANCE ORGANIZATION SHALL ALLOW A WOMAN TO CHOOSE A CERTIFIED NURSE MIDWIFE PARTICIPATING IN THE HEALTH MAINTENANCE ORGANIZATION IF THE CERTIFIED NURSE MIDWIFE DISCUSSES THE SERVICES AND TREATMENT PLAN WITH THE WOMAN'S PRIMARY CARE PROVIDER AND INFORMS THE WOMAN'S PRIMARY CARE PROVIDER OF ALL HEALTH SERVICES PROVIDED.~~

~~(III) A HEALTH MAINTENANCE ORGANIZATION SHALL OFFER THE WOMAN THE CHOICE OF AN OBSTETRIC AND GYNECOLOGICAL PROVIDER WITHIN THE HEALTH MAINTENANCE ORGANIZATION AND MAY NOT REQUIRE THE WOMAN TO RECEIVE OBSTETRIC AND GYNECOLOGICAL SERVICES FROM A SPECIFIC CATEGORY OF PROVIDER.~~

(3) (I) A HEALTH MAINTENANCE ORGANIZATION SHALL ALLOW A WOMAN TO RECEIVE MEDICALLY NECESSARY, ROUTINE OBSTETRIC AND GYNECOLOGICAL CARE FROM AN IN-NETWORK, CERTIFIED NURSE MIDWIFE OR ANY OTHER IN-NETWORK PROVIDER AUTHORIZED UNDER THE HEALTH OCCUPATIONS ARTICLE TO PROVIDE OBSTETRIC AND GYNECOLOGICAL SERVICES WITHOUT FIRST REQUIRING THE WOMAN TO VISIT A PRIMARY CARE PROVIDER.

(II) A CERTIFIED NURSE MIDWIFE OR OTHER NONPHYSICIAN PROVIDER AUTHORIZED UNDER THE HEALTH OCCUPATIONS ARTICLE TO PROVIDE OBSTETRIC AND GYNECOLOGICAL SERVICES SHALL CONSULT WITH AN OBSTETRICIAN/GYNECOLOGIST WITH WHOM THE CERTIFIED NURSE MIDWIFE OR OTHER PROVIDER HAS A COLLABORATIVE AGREEMENT, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE COLLABORATIVE AGREEMENT, REGARDING ANY CARE RENDERED IN ACCORDANCE WITH UNDER THIS PARAGRAPH.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act ~~shall apply~~ applies to all policies, contracts, and health benefit plans issued, delivered, or renewed in the State on or after October 1, 2000. ~~Any policy, contract, or health benefit plan in effect before October 1, 2000 shall comply with the provisions of this Act no later than October 1, 2001.~~