CHAPTER 227

AN ACT concerning health insurance benefits for Pap smears, amending P.L.1995, c.415 and supplementing P.L.1961, c.49 (C.52:14-17.25 et seq.).

BE IT ENACTED by the Senate and General Assembly of the State of New Jersey:

1. Section 1 of P.L.1995, c.415 (C.17:48E-35.12) is amended to read as follows:

C.17:48E-35.12 Health service corporation contract, Pap smear benefits.

1. No health service corporation contract providing hospital or medical expense benefits for groups with greater than 50 persons shall be delivered, issued, executed or renewed in this State, or approved for issuance or renewal in this State by the Commissioner of Banking and Insurance on or after the effective date of this act, unless the contract provides benefits to any named subscriber or other person covered thereunder for expenses incurred in conducting a Pap smear. The benefits shall be provided to the same extent as for any other medical condition under the contract.

As used in this section, and notwithstanding the provisions of this section to the contrary, "Pap smear" means an initial Pap smear and any confirmatory test when medically necessary and as ordered by the covered person's physician and includes all laboratory costs associated with the initial Pap smear and any such confirmatory test.

This section shall apply to all health service corporation contracts in which the health service corporation has reserved the right to change the premium.

2. Section 2 of P.L.1995, c.415 (C.17:48-60) is amended to read as follows:

C.17:48-60 Hospital service corporation contract, Pap smear benefits.

2. No hospital service corporation contract providing hospital or medical expense benefits for groups with greater than 50 persons shall be delivered, issued, executed or renewed in this State, or approved for issuance or renewal in this State by the Commissioner of Banking and Insurance on or after the effective date of this act, unless the contract provides benefits to any named subscriber or other person covered thereunder for expenses incurred in conducting a Pap smear. The benefits shall be provided to the same extent as for any other medical condition under the contract.

As used in this section, and notwithstanding the provisions of this section to the contrary, "Pap smear" means an initial Pap smear and any confirmatory test when medically necessary and as ordered by the covered person's physician and includes all laboratory costs associated with the initial Pap smear and any such confirmatory test.

This section shall apply to all hospital service corporation contracts in which the hospital service corporation has reserved the right to change the premium.

3. Section 3 of P.L.1995, c.415 (C.17:48A-7m) is amended to read as follows:

C.17:48A-7m Medical service corporation contract, Pap smear benefits.

3. No medical service corporation contract providing hospital or medical expense benefits for groups with greater than 50 persons shall be delivered, issued, executed or renewed in this State, or approved for issuance or renewal in this State by the Commissioner of Banking and Insurance on or after the effective date of this act, unless the contract provides benefits to any named subscriber or other person covered thereunder for expenses incurred in conducting a Pap smear. The benefits shall be provided to the same extent as for any other medical condition under the contract.

As used in this section, and notwithstanding the provisions of this section to the contrary, "Pap smear" means an initial Pap smear and any confirmatory test when medically necessary and as ordered by the covered person's physician and includes all laboratory costs associated with the initial Pap smear and any such confirmatory test.

This section shall apply to all medical service corporation contracts in which the medical service corporation has reserved the right to change the premium.

4. Section 4 of P.L.1995, c.415 (C.17B:27-46.1n) is amended to read as follows:

C.17B:27-46.1n Group health insurance policy, Pap smear benefits.

4. No group health insurance policy providing hospital or medical expense benefits for groups with greater than 50 persons shall be delivered, issued, executed or renewed in this State, or approved for issuance or renewal in this State by the Commissioner of Banking and Insurance on or after the effective date of this act, unless the policy provides benefits to any named insured or other person covered thereunder for expenses incurred in conducting a Pap smear. The benefits shall be provided to the same extent as for any other medical condition under the policy.

As used in this section, and notwithstanding the provisions of this section to the contrary, "Pap smear" means an initial Pap smear and any confirmatory test when medically necessary and as ordered by the covered person's physician and includes all laboratory costs associated with the initial Pap smear and any such confirmatory test.

This section shall apply to all group health insurance policies in which the health insurer has reserved the right to change the premium.

5. Section 5 of P.L.1995, c.415 (C.26:2J-4.12) is amended to read as follows:

C.26:2J-4.12 HMO contracts, Pap smear benefits.

5. A certificate of authority to establish and operate a health maintenance organization in this State shall not be issued or continued by the Commissioner of Health and Senior Services on or after the effective date of this act unless the health maintenance organization offers health care services to any enrollee or other person covered thereunder which include a Pap smear. The health care services shall be provided to the same extent as for any other medical condition under the contract.

As used in this section, and notwithstanding the provisions of this section to the contrary, "Pap smear" means an initial Pap smear and any confirmatory test when medically necessary and as ordered by the covered person's physician and includes all laboratory costs associated with the initial Pap smear and any such confirmatory test.

The provisions of this section shall apply to all contracts for health care services by health maintenance organizations under which the right to change the schedule of charges for enrollee coverage is reserved.

C.52:14-17.29f Pap smear benefits in State health benefits contracts.

6. The State Health Benefits Commission shall provide benefits to each person covered under the State Health Benefits Program for expenses incurred in conducting a Pap smear. The benefits shall be provided to the same extent as for any other medical condition under the contract.

As used in this section, and notwithstanding the provisions of this section to the contrary, "Pap smear" means an initial Pap smear and any confirmatory test when medically necessary and as ordered by the covered person's physician and includes all laboratory costs associated with the initial Pap smear and any such confirmatory test.

7. This act shall take effect immediately.

Approved August 27, 2001.