

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES

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November 18, 1992

TO: All County Welfare Directors
All County Administrative Officers
All County Medi-Cal Program Specialists/Liaisons

Letter No.: 92-70

SUBJECT: PERSONS EXCLUDED FROM THE MEDI-CAL FAMILY BUDGET UNIT (MFBU).

REFERENCE: 90-91, 92-12 AND 92-12A

This letter is to clarify policies concerning persons requesting Medi-Cal for only certain family members and whether the county eligibility worker should exclude them from the MFBU.

Instructions in the Sneede v. Kizer training packet and various All County Welfare Directors Letters now allow children to be excluded from the MFBU regardless of whether they have separate income or property. Two new forms have been designed for this purpose, the MC SN-2 and the MC SN-3. These must be signed by the parent or caretaker. Counties should also explain the consequences of excluding child(ren) and the effect on the maintenance need level.

For example, if a married pregnant women wishes Medi-Cal only for herself, her other children may be excluded; however, if they have little or no income or property, their exclusion could result in a share of cost (SOC) or higher SOC because of a smaller maintenance need level. Excluded children also may not use their medical expenses to reduce the SOC. PLEASE NOTE: Due to the implementation of the Continued Eligibility program, an unmarried father is not required to be in the MFBU if his mutual child is an unborn or under the age of one unless he, or family members other than the infant, wish benefits.

In most cases, rather than excluding the child(ren) who do not wish benefits, it would be more beneficial to those requesting benefits to include the child in the MFBU but suppress the card from being issued. This can be done by reporting the child to MEDS as ineligible although he/she may not meet the criteria as defined in Section 50379, Title 22 California Code of Regulations.

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If you have any further questions, please contact Marge Buzdas at
(916) 657-0726.

Sincerely,

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY

Frank S. Martucci, Chief
Medi-Cal Eligibility Branch

Enclosures