

GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
Department of Health Care Finance



Office of the Senior Deputy Director/Medicaid Director

Transmittal No. 19-10

**TO:** District of Columbia Medicaid Providers

**FROM:** Melisa Byrd *alby*  
Senior Deputy Director/State Medicaid Director

**DATE:** March 25, 2019

**SUBJECT:** UPDATE: Prior Authorization Process for Therapeutic Abortions under the District of Columbia (DC) Fee-For-Service (FFS) Medicaid Program

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The purpose of this transmittal is to update the process and procedure to obtain a prior authorization (PA) for a therapeutic abortion, as outlined in Transmittal 18-20. The previous transmittal (18-20) is not aligned with current policy and failed to indicate that a police report is a required document in cases of rape/incest.

In order to obtain a PA for a therapeutic abortion, the request shall be submitted to the Department of Health Care Finance (DHCF) contracted Quality Improvement Organization (QIO) via the provider web portal. The current QIO is Qualis Health, Incorporated (Qualis Health). The following documents shall be submitted as the request for a therapeutic abortion:

1. Completed 719A form;
2. Verification of pregnancy;
3. Verification of length of gestational period;
4. Clinical justification to terminate the pregnancy; and
5. ***Police report for cases of rape/incest.***

For questions regarding access and use of the Qualis provider web portal, please contact Qualis Health at (800) 251-8890 for assistance.

For questions regarding this transmittal, please contact Cavella Bishop, DHCF Program Manager of Clinicians, Pharmacy and Acute Provider Services at (202) 724-8936 or [cavella.bishop@dc.gov](mailto:cavella.bishop@dc.gov).