



**Bulletin #14-2011**

**TO:** Participating hospitals

**FROM:** Linda Paterson  
Senior Director, Network Field Services

**DATE:** November 17, 2011

**SUBJECT:** Updated notification requirement for NICU admissions

I am writing to inform you of an updated notification requirement for neonatal intensive care unit (NICU) admissions.

Historically, Independence Blue Cross (IBC) has not required a separate authorization for NICU services until the mother is discharged from the hospital.

Effective January 1, 2012, however, hospitals must notify IBC to get an authorization for NICU services from the first day of the NICU admission. Failure to obtain an authorization for NICU care will result in claim denials.

If you have any questions about this updated notification requirement for maternity admissions, please contact your Network Coordinator.

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**We encourage you to share this information with appropriate members of your staff.**

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