



Arkansas Department of Health

4815 West Markham Street • Little Rock, Arkansas 72205-3867 • Telephone (501) 661-2000

Governor Mike Beebe

Nathaniel Smith, MD, MPH, Director and State Health Officer

Friday, November 22, 2013

Dear BreastCare Provider:

The Arkansas Department of Health BreastCare Program will continue to provide the usual screening and diagnostic services to Arkansas women who qualify for our program.

Implementation of Health Care Reform is bringing changes for women who have cervical pre-cancer or a diagnosis of either breast or cervical cancer. The Medicaid Category 07 used to provide treatment to these women will end on **December 31, 2013** with the implementation of the Private Option. We will continue to enroll women who have a qualifying diagnosis until **December 31, 2013** for tests or treatments provided that qualify for retroactive coverage.

To ensure that these women continue their coverage during their treatment phase we are recommending that they apply for health coverage no later than **December 15, 2013** so they may begin their new plan January 1, 2014, without a lapse in coverage. To continue uninterrupted treatment it is imperative that your clients understand the time frame for enrollment. Please have them apply online at <https://access.arkansas.gov/> for the Private Option offered through Medicaid. This site requires clients to “pre-enroll” and then “Apply for Medicaid” where they will create a user name and passcode. For those who do not qualify for the Private Option, refer them to the marketplace for purchase of health insurance coverage at www.arhealthconnector.org.

If they do not have a computer or the internet, they can use computers at:

- Their home town library
- The Department of Human Services

The Department of Health also has staff to help them enroll and choose the best plan for their needs. They can call their local health unit to get an appointment for in-person assistance (IPA) with enrollment. Please have them take a list of their current medications from all of their doctors when they go to their appointment. This will help make sure that they choose the best plan for their needs.

If you have any questions, please contact Adam Nelsen at 501-661-2998.

Sincerely,

Michelle Snortland

Community Clinical Linkage Domain Lead