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Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield (Anthem) policy on licensed midwives

State law recently changed to allow licensed midwives to enroll as providers for the state's Medicaid programs. However, Anthem has decided not to contract with this provider type and will not cover services performed by licensed midwives. Please note: This decision does not affect Anthem's coverage of services billed by nurse practitioners certified with the nurse midwife specialty.

The Wisconsin Department of Health Services allows HMOs with Medicaid programs to decide which specific providers they contract with. Per "ForwardHealth Update No. 2016-51":

- Medicaid-enrolled licensed midwives who don't have a contract with a member's HMO are considered nonparticipating providers.
- Medicaid-enrolled nonparticipating providers may not serve Medicaid Supplemental Security Income (SSI) or BadgerCare Plus members as private-pay patients.

For additional information, refer to "ForwardHealth Update No. 2016-51" at <https://www.forwardhealth.wi.gov/kw/pdf/2016-51.pdf> or contact ForwardHealth Provider Services at **1-800-947-9627**.

The information in this bulletin may be an update or change to your provider manual. Find the most current manual at:

<https://mediproviders.anthem.com/wi>

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