



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Amerigroup Georgia Launches Obstetric Incentive Program to Improve Quality Health Outcomes for Pregnant Members

More than a dozen Georgia obstetric providers are already participating in the program

ATLANTA, Ga. (Oct. 6, 2016) – Amerigroup Community Care in Georgia has launched its Obstetric Quality Incentive Program (OBQIP), which offers incentives to obstetricians who provide quality care and services to pregnant Amerigroup Georgia Medicaid members. There are already 13 obstetric providers across Georgia who are participating in the program. These health care providers earn incentive payments by meeting and exceeding specified performance indicators that measure the quality of their services to Amerigroup members during and after their pregnancies.

“As we enter the era of evidenced-based medicine, Amerigroup is committed to supporting physicians who provide measurable, quality care to maternity patients,” said Dr. John Lue, Board Certified OB/GYN medical director at Amerigroup Georgia. “We understand the unique challenges providers experience when caring for maternity patients, and we are proud to support their efforts to provide effective, efficient care that increases positive birth experiences and health outcomes for our members.”

Amerigroup’s OBQIP program uses a system of quality care and health outcome measures to assess physician performance and calculate incentive payments. Doctors are tasked with improving quality scores and health outcomes by increasing their use of efficient and appropriate services as well as increasing access to prenatal and postpartum care and education. Their incentive payments are based on six performance measures:

- Timeliness of the first prenatal care visit
- Overall C-section rate
- Preterm birth rates
- Low birth weight rates
- Postpartum visit rates
- Assessment of patient tobacco use and intervention rates

Each performance measure is assigned a maximum value of 100 points, and each measure is assigned a target rate. Physicians earn performance pay by reaching their target rates. Physicians who exceed targets earn additional incentives. Determinations for incentive payments are made six months after the end of the performance measure period.

“We are pleased for the opportunity to collaborate with dedicated clinicians who share our mission to improve health outcomes across Georgia,” said Dr. William Alexander medical director at Amerigroup Georgia. “Together, we are succeeding in improving health and lives across our state by providing access to high quality health care services.”

ABOUT AMERIGROUP COMMUNITY CARE OF GEORGIA

Amerigroup Community Care of Georgia helps improve health care access and quality for more than 375,000 low-income Georgians by developing innovative care management programs and services. Members are assured care that is not only accessible, but also accountable, comprehensive, integrated and patient-centered. Amerigroup Georgia provides ongoing community relations and outreach to encourage members to become active participants in their health care. Through health education programs, members are empowered to choose and sustain a healthy lifestyle. For more information about Amerigroup Community Care of Georgia, visit www.myamerigroup.com/ga.

###

MEDIA CONTACT:

Denise Malecki

Amerigroup Public Relations Director

Phone: 813-830-6986

Email: denise.malecki@amerigroup.com