SECTION 5: BILLING AND REIMBURSEMENT GUIDELINES

of the Professional Provider Office Manual

5.49 BREAST FEEDING AND LACTATION SERVICES

This is a subsection of Section 5: Billing and Reimbursement Guidelines of the *Professional Provider Office Manual*. If Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Louisiana (Louisiana Blue) makes any procedural changes, in our ongoing efforts to improve our service to you, we will update the information in this subsection and notify our network providers. For complete *Professional Provider Office Manual* information, please refer to the other sections of this manual. Contact information for all manual sections is available in the Manual Reference Section.

For member eligibility, benefits or claims status information, we encourage you to use iLinkBlue (www.lablue.com/ilinkblue), our online self-service provider tool. Additional provider resources are available on our Provider page at www.lablue.com/providers.

This manual is provided for informational purposes only and is an extension of your Professional Provider Agreement. You should always directly verify member benefits prior to performing services. Every effort has been made to print accurate, current information. Errors or omissions, if any, are inadvertent. The Member Contract/Certificate contains information on benefits, limitations and exclusions, and managed care benefit requirements. It also may limit the number of days, visits or dollar amounts to be reimbursed.

As stated in your agreement: This manual is intended to set forth in detail our policies. Louisiana Blue retains the right to add to, delete from and otherwise modify the *Professional Provider Office Manual* as needed. This manual and other information and materials provided are proprietary and confidential and may constitute trade secrets.

LACTATION SERVICES

Lactation support includes, but is not limited to, any education, counseling or behavioral interventions to improve breastfeeding outcomes.

Services may include:

- Promoting breastfeeding, helping with latch and positioning of the infant.
- Managing different lactation problems.
- Counseling on returning to work or school while lactating.
- Addressing other concerns.

Lactation support services may be billed by certified lactation consultants or by other qualified healthcare professionals acting within the scope of their license or certification.

Use code S9443 to bill for all lactation services. Lactation services are not eligible for separate reimbursement from evaluation and management services or from other therapeutic interventions that include lactation services as a component. Lactation visits which require the participation of both the lactating member and baby are considered as one patient and should be billed on one claim per session under the mother. Services rendered during an inpatient stay should not be billed separately and are not eligible for separate reimbursement.

Donor Breast Milk

Use the guidelines below to ensure proper reimbursement for outpatient billing of donor breast milk.

- Billing should be submitted with the baby's member information.
- Please bill with code T2101 with 1 unit per 1 ounce.

Breast Pumps

For information regarding breast pumps, please see the Durable Medical Equipment and Supplies section 5.14 of this manual.