

decision as to the admission of a patient during the first 24 hours the patient is in an inpatient facility or until the next business day of the private review agent, whichever is later. The hospital shall immediately notify the private review agent that a patient has been admitted and shall state the reasons for the admission.]

15-10B-08.

(A) IF A CARRIER DELEGATES ITS INTERNAL GRIEVANCE PROCESS TO A PRIVATE REVIEW AGENT, THE PRIVATE REVIEW AGENT SHALL ESTABLISH AN INTERNAL GRIEVANCE PROCESS FOR ITS PATIENTS AND HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS ACTING ON BEHALF OF A PATIENT.

(B) A PRIVATE REVIEW AGENT'S INTERNAL GRIEVANCE PROCESS SHALL MEET THE SAME REQUIREMENTS ESTABLISHED UNDER §§ 15-10A-02 THROUGH 15-10A-05 OF THIS TITLE.

(C) ~~AN INTERNAL GRIEVANCE PROCESS ESTABLISHED BY~~ A PRIVATE REVIEW AGENT ~~UNDER THIS SECTION~~ MAY NOT CHARGE A FEE TO A PATIENT OR HEALTH CARE PROVIDER FOR FILING A GRIEVANCE.

15-10B-09.

(a) In this section, "attending provider" means an obstetrician, pediatrician, or other physician or certified nurse midwife or pediatric nurse practitioner attending the mother or newborn child.

(b) Except as provided in subsections (c) and (d) of this section, the criteria and standards used by a private review agent or health maintenance organization in performing utilization review of hospital services related to maternity and newborn care, including length of stay, shall be in accordance with the medical criteria outlined in the most current version of the "Guidelines for Perinatal Care" prepared by the American Academy of Pediatrics and the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists.

(c) Subject to the provisions of subsection (d) of this section, a private review agent or health maintenance organization performing utilization review of hospital services related to maternity and newborn care shall authorize a minimum coverage of:

(1) 48 hours of inpatient hospitalization care following an uncomplicated vaginal delivery; and

(2) 96 hours of inpatient hospitalization care following an uncomplicated cesarean section.

(d) (1). The private review agent or health maintenance organization may authorize a shorter length of stay than that provided in subsection (c) of this section if the mother, in consultation with her attending provider, decides that less time is needed for recovery.