



02.07.24 - NE Tribal/Medicaid Monthly Call Agenda

Conference Access Number **(888) 820-1398**

Attendee Code- **7300221**

Present: Jacob Kawamoto, Cathy Kearney, Londa Krull, Lisa Miller (Omaha), Becky Crase (Ponca), Michelle (Ponca), Sylvia Allen-Lopez (Ponca), RickyAnn Fletcher (Ponca), Vietta Swalley (Santee), Nancy Mackey (Santee), Chasity Davis (White Cloud), Leslie Horwart (Molina), Angi Tran (Moina), Kiernan Scott (Molina), Jeanine Fitzpatrick (Molina), Tuesday Kuhlman (NTC), Stacey Steiner (CMS),

SPA/Waiver Updates

- SPA
 - o NE 24-0004: Continuous Eligibility for Children Under Medicaid
 - Extends continuous eligibility for children enrolled in Medicaid from 6 to 12 months.
 - Anticipated effective date is January 1, 2024.
 - o NE 24-0007: Continuous Eligibility for Children Under CHIP
 - Extends continuous eligibility for children enrolled in the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) from 6 to 12 months.
 - Anticipated effective date is January 1, 2024.
- Waiver Authority
 - o None
- **QUESTION:** Why are redeterminations and renewals taking so long?
 - o **ANSWER:** There is a large number of cases for field workers to get caught up with due to the Public Health Emergency (PHE) Unwinding and many cases not having been renewed since the PHE. The Medicaid field offices are currently understaffed due to worker shortages and difficulties in hiring new employees. However, Tribal benefit coordinators can reach out to Jacob (Jacob.kawamoto@nebraska.gov) with questions if cases are taking extraordinarily long or if abnormal issues arise that need resolution.

Additional Items

- Dental Billing Guidance
 - o Tribal facilities and clinics will bill for dental services using the T1015 code and will include the dental service-specific CPT code(s) on the subsequent line(s).
 - The Tribes have also asked about reimbursement at the fee-for-service (FFS) rate for dental services where the FFS rate is higher than the Tribal encounter rate.
 - **ANSWER:** All dental services provided by the Tribal facilities that qualify as an encounter (i.e. are appropriately provided by a qualified provider at the

clinic/facility) are to be billed per the instructions above and reimbursed at the IHS encounter rate. For questions or situations where services provided fall outside the scope of the encounter, the Tribes should reach out and coordinate with NE Medicaid.

- **QUESTION:** Do the MCOs have a guide that outlines which services require prior authorization?
 - **ANSWER:** Nebraska Medicaid has sent out a resource to the MCOs that outlines which dental service codes require prior authorization.
- **QUESTION:** Under the previous contract, MCNA sent out a list/grid with the dental service CPT codes that also had 3 columns indicating things like which services required x-rays, additional narratives, and prior authorizations. Will something like this be made again for the Tribes to reference when billing for dental services?
 - **ANSWER:** Each MCO will likely have its own resources available to Tribal providers to assist them with how to bill, submit prior authorizations, other considerations for claims, etc. Tuesday (NTC) referenced various resources like this that are available from NTC and plans to send them to RickyAnn Fletcher who plans to work on compiling a similar guidance document.
- MCO Contracting Reminder
 - The Tribes are not required to contract with the MCOs or their sub-contractors. However, the Tribes also can do so, and CMS has a model contract [Addendum for Indian Health Care Providers](#) contracting with MCOs.
- Vendor Data Security Incident
 - MLTC is working internally, with MCNA, and with the HIPAA Office to request a flier for Tribal providers to help spread awareness around the data breach and resources that are available to affected members.
- Medicare Crossover Claims – *Update*
- PHE Data Sharing Agreements
 - MLTC has received a point of contact for each of the Tribes, and these have been forwarded to the MLTC Legal team who is drafting the Data Sharing Agreement. Once drafted, this will be sent out to the Tribes for review and feedback/approval.
 - *UPDATE:* the Medicaid Policy team has continued to work through the operational considerations involved in establishing, running, and sending out a report of this scope. The MLTC Legal team has finalized the draft Data Sharing Agreements, and the Data & Analytics Team has run a report that would provide the relevant information. The draft agreement is now being reviewed/approved by the Medicaid/DHHS Procurement teams.
- NEMT
 - At the August 2022 Quarterly Consultation meeting, it was agreed that the MCOs and Tribes would discuss how to improve access to transportation services for Tribal beneficiaries.
 - Jacob spoke with the PSC, brought more information to the November 2023 Tribal Consultation, and sent a follow-up email to each of the Tribes. The Tribes should submit an exemption request to the PSC. If granted the exception, the Tribe will then need to enroll with Maximus as a PSC-exempt NEMT provider and can then provide the approval from the PSC to Maximus to complete this enrollment.
 - PSC contact: PSC.motorfilings@nebraska.gov
- All Nations Crisis Hotline / Text Line

- This is a free text line available for the Native American population within the state of Nebraska. Those experiencing issues like domestic abuse, homelessness, economic worries, depression, or loneliness can text “support” to **33464** for help.
- <https://allnationshotline.org/>

Open Discussion

- **QUESTION:** Where is Molina at with updating their systems for pharmacy claims?
 - **ANSWER:** This update is still projected to be completed at the end of the month, and CVS will retroactively correct claims back to 01/01/24.
- **QUESTION (Santee):** We haven't uploaded medical claims to Molina yet – are those paying correctly? Are any of the other Tribes running into issues?
 - No answer from any of the other Tribes.
 - **ANSWER:** Molina hasn't been made aware of issues related to medical claims billed by the Tribes.
- **QUESTION:** Is Molina seeing them come through at the 2024 IHS encounter rate?
 - **ANSWER:** Molina will check
 - **ANSWER:** Ponca did submit a few claims to Molina but was having some internal software issues and taxonomy ID issues – so no issues to report from their experience so far with billing to Molina.