



## 03.01.23 - NE Tribal/Medicaid Monthly Call Agenda

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

Attendee Code- **7300221**

**Present:** Jacob Kawamoto, Danielle Juracek, Chris Morton, Jessie Edwards, Jeshena Gold, Travis Beck, Jackie Orth, Nancy Mackey (Santee), Vietta Swalley (Santee), Becky Crase (Ponca), Sylvia Allen-Lopez (Ponca), Michelle Runyan (Ponca), Catalina Hernandez (Pine Ridge), Alex Arobba (IHS), Gelisha Palmer (HBN), Tamara Mostek (HBN), Tracy Nelson (MCNA), Tuesday Kuhlman (NTC), Jenn Nelson (UHC), Cynthia Goslin (UHC)

### SPA/Waiver Updates

- SPA
  - o NE 23-0004: Former Foster Care Program
    - Updates and expands eligibility requirements
- Waiver Authority
  - o 1902(e)(14)(A) Waiver

### Additional Items

- PHE Unwind – Update
  - o Continuous Coverage Requirement ends on March 31, 2023
  - o COVID-19 PHE set to end on May 11, 2023
    - **QUESTION (IHS):** Is NE able to provide the average monthly enrollment numbers prior to the pandemic, as well as at the end of last year (2022)? Is there an estimate on how many people could potentially lose coverage during the unwinding? Additionally, are there estimates on how many Native American beneficiaries are enrolled in NE Medicaid, and how many may lose coverage?
      - **ANSWER (MLTC):** It is difficult to make determinations like this based on numbers prior to the beginning of the pandemic since Medicaid Expansion in NE was also rolled out in 2020. Current estimates of the number of individuals that may lose coverage during the unwinding period is between 10 -20%. And current Medicaid enrollment is around 385,000 individuals. Loss of contact with Medicaid beneficiaries since the beginning of the pandemic also makes these estimates difficult.
  - **QUESTION (IHS):** Does NE have an estimate on the increase in enrollment due to Medicaid Expansion?

- **ANSWER (MLTC):** The estimated increase due to Medicaid Expansion 80,000 – 90,000 individuals.
  - **QUESTION (IHS):** Does MLTC know the average percentage or number of Native Americans that are enrolled in NE Medicaid?
    - **ANSWER:** Nebraska does not have that information at this time.
  - **QUESTION (IHS):** SD Medicaid provides that information and it is publicly available. Can MLTC look in to doing the same?
    - **ANSWER (MLTC):** Yes. MLTC will check with the data and analytics teams to see what information is currently available.
  - MLTC should be able to track how many Native American Medicaid beneficiaries there are since on the application there is a question asking about Tribal Affiliation.
    - (MLTC): While that question is on the application, it also is not required for applicants to fill it out. Therefore, it may not always be a reliable indicator of the number of Native American beneficiaries enrolled, and in fact may under-report those estimates. MLTC will look into additional ways of identifying and reporting Native American enrollment in NE Medicaid.
  - (Ponca): Found some data on this from the Division of Tribal Affairs State Engagement Tracker. This reported that there are 12 AI/AN health facilities in NE, and that the total population is estimated to be around 33,000. Native American Medicaid enrollment is estimated at 10,000. Unsure of how these numbers were gathered.
    - Ponca will email this report to Jacob, and Jacob will send it out to the group.
- Medicare Crossover Claims – Update
  - MLTC Policy is working with the Finance and Claims teams to identify the issues and needed next steps to resolve existing discrepancies.
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- Next In-Person Consultation Meeting – RESCHEDULED: March 2, 2023
  - Victor E Anderson Branch Library  
3635 Touzalin Ave  
Lincoln, NE 68507
- NEMT
  - At the August Quarterly Consultation meeting, it was agreed that the MCOs and Tribes would discuss how to improve access to transportation services for Tribal beneficiaries.
    - Is there any support that MLTC can offer the Tribes or MCOs?
- There was a request for the MCOs to discuss their plans for dental coverage at the 3.2.23 in-person Consultation Meeting.
- **QUESTION (Santee):** Is the appeal process for the new MCO contracts completed? When will Molina be attending these Tribal/Medicaid meetings?
  - **ANSWER (MLTC):** MLTC will invite Molina to the Tribal/Medicaid meetings moving forward. Molina is planning to administer dental benefits in-house.
- There was a request for the MCOs to provide an update at the 3.2.23 in-person Consultation Meeting regarding their plans to reimburse past claims up to the 2023 IHS all-inclusive rate (AIR).

- The 2023 IHS AIR was posted to the Federal Register on 2.27.23:  
<https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2023/02/27/2023-03896/reimbursement-rates-for-calendar-year-2023>