

5.5.21 - NE Tribal/Medicaid Monthly Call Agenda

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

Attendee Code- **7300221**

Present: Jacob Kawamoto, Danielle Trejo, Chris Morton, Nolan Gill, Aaron Reece, LeAnn Ortmeier UHC, Jenn Nelson UHC, Ricky Ann Fletcher MCNA, Tracy Nelson MCNA, Jenny Cupak HB, Vietta Swalley (Santee), Nancy Mackey (Santee), Ariel Earth (Winnebago), Audrey Parker (Omaha), Crystal Appleton (Omaha), Renee Torrez (Omaha), Becky Crase (Ponca), Keri Bass, Janelle Lee, Jenna Free

SPA/Waiver Updates

- SPA
 - Updated Tribal Notice regarding RN eSPA updates to be sent out soon
 - Will allow Tribes to bill at the encounter rate for COVID-19 testing and vaccine administration, and for RNs providing these services
 - **QUESTION:** What about other immunizations that are ordered by a provider and delivered by an RN? Is this covered? (This question also was posed for other services RNs provide, such as diabetic visits and most lab services.)
 - **ANSWER:** At this time, MLTC is only adding services delivered by RNs for COVID-19 testing and vaccine administration to be reimbursed at the AIR through the Disaster Relief SPA submission to CMS. Nothing else is being added or altered, and for any further questions about reimbursement at the encounter rate, see the State Plan at:
<https://dhhs.ne.gov/Medicaid%20State%20Plan/Attachment%2004.19b%20Item%20d%20-%20Indian%20Health%20Service%20and%20Tribal%20health%20ofacilities;%20telehealth.pdf>
 - **QUESTION:** Previous Provider Bulletin (21-03) sent out by DHHS stated that Tribal facilities would receive the All-Inclusive Rate (AIR) for COVID-19 vaccine administration back to 12/1/20, but the previous month's Tribal/Medicaid call notes indicated it would only go back to 4/1/21. Are the notes wrong?
 - **ANSWER:** Yes, the April meeting minutes are incorrect. COVID-19 vaccine administration can be reimbursed at the AIR back to 12/1/20. RN administration of COVID-19 vaccination and testing services can be reimbursed at the AIR back to 4/1/21.
- Waiver Authority
 - None at this time

Additional Items

- Jeff Powell, Public Information Officer – DHHS Office of Communications
 - COVID-19 Vaccine Awareness Campaign
 - Jeff Powell with the DHHS Office of Communications is helping to organize Vaccine Safety outreach town hall-style meetings, and wants them to be facilitated and co-hosted by community leaders. DHHS communications has been hosting these meetings, and would like the opportunity to meet with the Tribal communities to discuss vaccine safety, effectiveness, and address any questions the communities may have. The meetings include doctors, as well as health professionals and administrators to help provide information and answer any questions. Jeff and his team would be able to join any existing meetings (monthly Tribal meetings, town halls, etc.), or to organize a meeting specifically for this purpose with the Tribes.
 - You can reach Jeff via phone at (402) 471-6223, or via email at jeff.powell@nebraska.gov
 - **QUESTION:** Can they come onsite for the meetings?
 - **ANSWER:** Yes, DHHS Communications team would be happy to.
- Chris Morton, Public Information Officer – DHHS MLTC
 - Tribal Website: Provider Page Feedback
 - MLTC will be launching a Tribal Medicaid website as a part of the larger DHHS/MLTC Public Website. Currently, it is still being drafted and developed, and Chris and the team would appreciate feedback from the Tribes. MLTC wants to make sure that the website is informative and helpful, as well as culturally appropriate. There will be webpages discussing Tribal-specific aspects of Medicaid for clients, providers, and MLTC Tribal Relations/contact information.
 - Currently, on the Provider page of this website, MLTC plans to have information about the All-Inclusive Rate, 638 facilities, MCO contacts and information, and provider enrollment. Are there other items that would be helpful for this provider page?
 - The Tribes have been facing increased pressure from insurance companies to partner with them and contract to cover dual eligible beneficiaries. Do these insurance companies have to be approved by the state? Medicaid case workers have also been signing up Tribal beneficiaries. United Health Care is one such company, and wants another complete agreement in order to cover dual eligible beneficiaries.
 - LeAnn will check with their networking and contracting team.
 - The Tribes are concerned with the trend they've seen in these insurance companies' involvement with coverage of dual eligibles.
- Vietta would like it added to next month's agenda to discuss crossover claims issues.
 - The Tribes sent in their W-9s, but still haven't received payment from the state. If this is not done soon, they will have to manually request through EOB.

- Jacob to discuss internally and add this item to the June agenda.
- The Tribes have also been having issues getting claims from WellCare reimbursed through HealthyBlue. They also have not had regular monthly meetings with Healthy Blue like they used to.
 - MCNA has also been having difficulties with Healthy Blue payments to surgical centers for children's hospital visits.
 - Jacob to reach out to Jenny Cupak and add this as an agenda item for the June monthly call.