

## 9.1.21 - NE Tribal/Medicaid Monthly Call Agenda

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

Attendee Code- **7300221**

PRESENT: Jacob Kawamoto, Danielle Trejo, Chris Morton, Jessie Edwards, Travis Beck (DHHS Plan Management), Aaron Reece, RickyAnn Fletcher MCNA, Tracy Nelson MCNA, Jennifer Newcombe NTC, LeAnn Ortmeier UHC, Stacey Steiner CMS, Jenna Free (Omaha), Crystal Appleton (Omaha), Audrey Parker (Omaha), Becky Crase (Ponca), Laura Peck (Winnebago), Ari-el Earth (Winnebago), Nancy Mackey (Santee), Vietta Swalley (Santee), Bo Boryca (UIHP), Wendy Peterson, Sam Hasan

### SPA/Waiver Updates

- SPA
  - o Rate Updates (Tribal Notices sent on 8/6/21)
    - NE 21-0008: Nursing Facility Rates
      - For the rate period of July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022, the inflation factor is positive 15.99% (impacts Tribes operating Nursing Facilities)
    - NE 21-0009: ICF-DD Rates
      - No impact to the Tribes
    - NE 21-0010: SFY22 Inpatient Provider Rates
      - 2.00% increase in provider rates for inpatient services
    - NE 21-0011: SFY22 Outpatient and Professional Provider Rates
      - 2.00% increase in provider rates for outpatient and professional services
- Waiver Authority
  - o None at this time

### Additional Items

- Crossover Claims Update
  - o DHHS is working with the MCOs and stakeholders to research and ensure all systems and operations are up to date
    - The Tribes are still seeing Medicare crossover claims from CMS going to WellCare instead of Healthy Blue.
      - **Action Item:** Jacob will make sure this gets addressed by Healthy Blue and DHHS Plan Management.
- Next Benefit Coordinators Meeting planned for 9.23.21
  - o Communications Team will be joining to give a presentation regarding the upcoming changes to the Heritage Health Adult (HHA) expansion program
    - If you would like to be added to the meeting invite, email Jacob at: [Jacob.kawamoto@nebraska.gov](mailto:Jacob.kawamoto@nebraska.gov)
- Open Enrollment for Heritage Health beneficiaries will be from Nov. 1, 2021 – Dec. 15, 2021

- During this period, beneficiaries can change health plans if they choose
- HealthyBlue Communication Issues
  - The Tribal Liaison, Jenny Cupak, has been absent from the last two Tribal/Medicaid monthly meetings
    - Carl T. Curtis would like to set up a meeting with DHHS to discuss further. Jacob has sent a follow up email to coordinate this.
  - Winnebago also voiced that they have had a lack of communication with the HB Tribal Liaison, which has led to issues with collections
  - Crystal with the Omaha Tribe voiced they have not been receiving responses from the HB Tribal Liaison. They tried to go into the HB online portal to do payment reconsideration, uploaded their methodologies, and the reconsideration was denied (HB didn't pay AIR). The Omaha Tribe then did the payment reconsideration again and HB still upheld their decision. HB is not understanding how the tribes are paying or accounting for the AIR. Crystal reached out to Jenny C and she did not respond.
    - Additionally, the Omaha Tribe sent a letter about the issues they have been facing to Stacey at CMS.
      - Stacey received this, and will work with Jacob and Travis Beck to make sure the concerns are addressed.
      - Travis Beck will take these issues back to the DHHS Plan Management team to be addressed with HealthyBlue.
- Laura from Winnebago, asked about Tribal communications and how these are done from DHHS.
  - Jacob maintains a list of contacts for the Tribal/Medicaid calls and other communications as Tribal Liaison. There is also a Medicaid SPA contact list for official Tribal Consultation emails.
    - Laura will send Jacob a list of contacts to ensure the correct people from the Winnebago Tribe are receiving these communications.
- Will there be a Provider Bulletin issued to provide guidance for the third vaccine dose?
  - Chris: There is currently a provider bulletin about this in the works. It should be sent out later in September once it is approved.
- Crystal Appleton requested that the following be added to the next meeting's agenda – crossover claims that were supposed to be paid back 2017-2019
  - When will FFS be corrected?
  - Will tribes have to go back and resubmit?
    - The Tribes asked the state to consider untimely filing requirements and make sure that the Tribes are not penalized for this.
      - Jacob will check internally on these items/questions and try to bring a timeline to the next meeting.
- Nancy with Santee asked United about Optum Pay issues.
  - LeAnn informed the group that there was a system "update" on 8.28.21, and that there should no longer be extremely long wait times. Tribes should continue to monitor and let LeAnn know if there are any issues.

- Santee also raised concerns with NTC switching pharmacies. It is a huge undertaking and big burden on the Tribes administratively to make these changes. This is the third pharmacy with NTC, and it is very time consuming for the Tribes to switch. Contract wise, is NTC able to make these pharmacy changes?
  - o Jennifer from NTC: She understands this is a big undertaking for the Tribes, appreciates the feedback, and apologizes for the added challenges that accompany this change. NTC has changed the pharmacy processing system back to CVS, which allows additional functionality and resources. NTC also had direct discussions with CVS and managers/directors discussing the process to make sure the experience for the Tribes will be beneficial and that they will not run into the same issues that they did previously. NTC held meetings to make sure tribal concerns are being addressed, and created a plan to quickly resolve any issues that may arise in the future.
- The Tribes did not see the meeting notes from last month's meeting.
  - o **Action Item:** Jacob will check and resend if necessary.