AHCCCS Reimbursement for Traditional Healing Services

April 20, 2017
Introductions

Terrilynn Chee, Director Revenue Generation
Tse’hootsooi’ Medical Center
Fort Defiance, AZ
Today, we’ll discuss

- Brief history of Arizona Section 1115 pertaining to Traditional Healers

- Traditional Healers Workgroup

- Traditional Healers with Indian Health Service (IHS) and Tribal Self-Determined facilities

- Service Parameters

- Payment methodology

- Timeline of current workgroup
AZ 1115 Waiver

- AHCCCS seeking waiver authority from CMS for Traditional Healers

- Waiver allows reimbursement for certain services (Traditional Healers) through FMAP

- AHCCCS does not currently reimburse for Traditional Healers Services

- Waiver language developed by Traditional Healers Workgroup included:
  a. What kind of qualified providers will provide the service
  b. What services will be included
  c. What services will be covered and not covered

- Original waiver language submitted to CMS by AHCCCS on June 1, 2016
Timeline of Workgroup

- Conception date - August 21, 2015 (Tribal Consultation Meeting)
- October 7, 2015 - AHCCCS out letters to Tribal representatives requesting participation in work group
- October 22, 2015 - Individuals signed up to be part of the work group during
- December 12, 2015 - Initial workgroup formed
- January 2016 - May 2016 (Monthly meetings/research/language development)
- April 2016 (Workgroup met with CMS/submitted preliminary waiver to AHCCCS and posted on AHCCCS website for public review)
- May 2016 Public comment period, letters of support, final meeting
Traditional Healers

- Traditional services currently being provided in IHS/Self-Determined, Urban healthcare clinics and hospitals

- Currently not a covered service benefit under AHCCCS

- Traditional Healers are employed by IHS/Self-Determined, Urban healthcare facilities

- Currently IHS/Self-Determined facilities are not reimbursed for traditional services
Service Parameters (Qualified Traditional Providers)

- Endorsed by a Qualifying Entity
  a) Endorsement letter

Qualify Entity
a) Facility Governing Body:
   Hospital Board, Medical Executive Committee, Traditional Healers Program Director
   Or
b) Facility designated entity with Tribal Acknowledgement:
   Tribal Leader, Tribal Traditional Healer or Traditional Healer Association
Payment Methodology

- All Inclusive Rate - Per Encounter Reimbursement

- Fee For Service - Fee Schedule Reimbursement

- Member Benefit Allowance - AHCCCS member is paid and chooses how to utilize the monetary in obtaining traditional healer service
At the January 18, 2017 AHCCCS Tribal Consultation Meeting, Ms. Kitty Marx, CMS Director of Division of Tribal Affairs, Office of Intergovernmental Affairs shared with the participants that CMS received the Traditional Healing Service Proposal and reviewing how the services can be reimbursed under Medicaid. Ms. Marx suggested the Traditional Healing Workgroup reconvened to review the services and map out which of the services are already covered under the State Plan.

AHCCCS sent out a Notice to Meeting on February 1, 2017 to invite Tribal representative to service on the second term of the Traditional Healing Workgroup. Meeting was scheduled on February 13, 2017. Chair and Co-Chair Selected.
Continuation

- February 27, 2017 - Conference Call with Workgroup Members
- March 10, 2017 - Tse’hootsooi’ Medical Center, Chinle IHS, Tuba City Healthcare Corporation, Winslow Healthcare Facility, Red Mesa Health Center and Pinon Health Center Traditional Healers held a work session on identifying traditional service provided at respective facilities
- March 16, 2017 - Workgroup meeting in Guadalupe, AZ to being cross walk with State Plan on traditional services
- March 23, 2017 - Conference Call Only - Cancelled
- March 31, 2017 - Workgroup meeting in Flagstaff, AZ
- April 7, 2017 - Workgroup meeting in Flagstaff, AZ
- April 13, 2017 - Conference Call Only
- April 20, 2017 - AHCCCS Tribal Consultation - Present documents to AHCCCS
- April 28, 2017 - Submit final document. Conclusion of Workgroup
- May 1, 2017 - AHCCCS to post workgroup document for public comment (45 days)
- June 19, 2017 - AHCCCS to submit to CMS
Contact Information:

Terrilynn Chee, Director of Revenue Generation
Tse’hootsoi’ Medical Center
(928) 729-8311
Terrilynn.Nez-Chee@fdihb.org

THANK YOU