February 11, 2015

Dear Tribal Chair and Health Director:

RE: Coverage of Physician-Administered Injectable Drugs as a Pharmacy Benefit

This letter, in compliance with Section 1902(a)(73) and Section 2107(e)(1)(C) of the Social Security Act, serves as notice of intent to all Tribal Chairs and Health Directors of the request by the Michigan Department of Community Health (MDCH) to submit a State Plan Amendment to cover pharmacy claims for physician-administered injectable drugs.

This amendment will allow pharmacy providers to be reimbursed for injectable drugs for administration in a hospital or outpatient clinic using a rate based on the National Drug Code (NDC). Coverage of pharmacy claims for physician-administered injectable drugs will no longer be limited to Synagis. Professional or institutional claims for physician-administered injectable drugs will continue to be covered. Providers, including Tribal Health Centers, will have the option of submitting a claim for a physician-administered injectable drug as a pharmacy claim, professional claim or institutional claim, as appropriate.

There is no public hearing scheduled for this State Plan Amendment. Input regarding this amendment is highly encouraged, and comments regarding this Notice of Intent may be submitted to Lorna Elliott-Egan, MDCH Liaison to the Michigan Tribes. Lorna can be reached at (517) 373-4963 or via e-mail at Elliott-EganL@michigan.gov. Please provide all input by March 16, 2015.

In addition, MDCH is offering to set up group or individual meetings for the purposes of consultation in order to discuss this amendment, according to the tribes’ preference. This consultation meeting will allow tribes the opportunity to address any concerns and voice any suggestions, revisions, or objections to be relayed to the author of the proposal. If you would like additional information or wish to schedule a consultation meeting, please contact Lorna Elliott-Egan at the telephone number or email address provided above.

MDCH appreciates the continued opportunity to work collaboratively with you to care for the residents of our state.

Sincerely,

Stephen Fitton, Director
Medical Services Administration

cc: Leslie Campbell, Region V, CMS
Pamela Carson, Region V, CMS
Ashley Tuomi, MHPA, Executive Director, American Indian Health and Family Services of Southeastern Michigan
L. John Lufkins, Executive Director, Inter-Tribal Council of Michigan, Inc.
Jenny Jenkins, Acting Area Director, Indian Health Service - Bemidji Area Office
Lorna Elliott-Egan, MDCH
Mr. Levi Carrick, Sr., Tribal Chairman, Bay Mills Indian Community
Ms. Vicki Newland, Health Director, Bay Mills (Ellen Marshall Memorial Center)
Mr. Alvin Pedwaydon, Tribal Chairman, Grand Traverse Band Ottawa & Chippewa Indians
Ms. Loi Chambers, Health Director, Grand Traverse Band Ottawa/Chippewa
Mr. Kenneth Meshigaud, Tribal Chairman, Hannahville Indian Community
Ms. G. Susie Meshigaud, Health Director, Hannahville Health Center
Mr. Donald Shalifoe Sr., President, Keweenaw Bay Indian Community
Ms. Carole LaPointe, Health Director, Keweenaw Bay Indian Community - Donald Lapointe Health/Educ Facility
Mr. James Williams, Jr., Tribal Chairman, Lac Vieux Desert Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians
Ms. Sadie Valliere, Health & Human Services Director, Lac Vieux Desert Band
Mr. Larry Romanelli, Ogema, Little River Band of Ottawa Indians
Ms. Jessica Burger, Acting Health Director, Little River Band of Ottawa Indians
Mr. Fred Kiogima, Tribal Chairman, Little Traverse Bay Band of Odawa Indians
Ms. Sharon Sierzputowski, Health Director, Little Traverse Bay Band of Odawa
Mr. DK Sprague, Tribal Chairman, Match-E-Be-Nash-She-Wish Potawatomi Indians (Gun Lake Band)
Ms. Phyllis Davis, Health Director, Match-E-Be-Nash-She-Wish Potawatomi
Mr. Homer Mandoka, Vice Tribal Chairman, Nottawaseppi Huron Band of Potawatomi Indians
Ms. Rosalind Johnston, Health Director, Huron Potawatomi Inc.- Tribal Health Department
Mr. John Warren, Tribal Chairman, Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians
Mr. Matt Clay, Health Director, Pokagon Potawatomi Health Services
Mr. Steve Pego, Tribal Chief, Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe
Mrs. Karmen Fox, Executive Health Director, Nimkee Memorial Wellness Center
Mr. Aaron Payment, Tribal Chairman, Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians
Ms. Bonnie Culfa, Health Director, Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians - Health Center

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