



STATE OF WASHINGTON
HEALTH CARE AUTHORITY

626 8th Avenue, SE • P.O. Box 45502 • Olympia, Washington 98504-5502

May 1, 2025

Dear Tribal Leader:

SUBJECT: Medicaid State Plan Amendment 25-0005 Physician Services Updates

In accordance with section 1902(a)(73)(A) of the Social Security Act regarding the solicitation of advice prior to the submission of any Medicaid State Plan Amendment (SPA) or waiver likely to have a direct effect on Indians, Indian Health Programs, or Urban Indian Organizations, the Health Care Authority (HCA) hereby seeks your advice on the following matter.

Purpose

HCA intends to submit SPA 25-0005 to update information in the Physician Services section of the Medicaid State Plan. For critical care services, the three hour limit on services is being removed, and “multiple organ systems” is being replaced with “different specialties” to clarify the distinctly separate services that may warrant coverage of more than one physician delivering services. In addition, a reference to the pediatric intensive care unit (PICU) is being added to the newborn and neonatal care unit (NICU) section. These changes are to ensure the State Plan accurately reflects current policy and practice - they do not reflect changes to current policy and practice.

HCA anticipates this SPA to be effective October 1, 2025.

Anticipated Impact on Indians/Indian Health Programs/Urban Indian Organizations

HCA does not anticipate this SPA to have an impact that is specific to American Indian/Alaska Native Medicaid applicants or enrollees, Indian Health Programs, or Urban Indian Health Organizations. However, HCA would appreciate any input or concerns that Tribal representatives wish to share, including whether this SPA will have disproportionate impact on American Indian/Alaska Native Medicaid applicants or enrollees, Indian Health programs, or Urban Indian Health Organizations.

Copy Attached

A copy of the draft SPA is attached for your review.

Comments and Questions

HCA would appreciate any input or concerns that Tribal representatives wish to share regarding this SPA. To request a copy of the draft SPA when it becomes available or return any comments, please contact Andrea Allen, Occupational Nurse Consultant, via email at andrea.allen@hca.wa.gov, with a courtesy copy to Ann Myers, State Plan Coordinator, at ann.myers@hca.wa.gov by May 30, 2025.

Please contact Aren Sparck, Tribal Affairs Administrator, via email at aren.sparck@hca.wa.gov if you have tribal affairs-related questions or concerns.

Please forward this information to any interested party.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Charissa Fotinos MD, MSc".

Charissa Fotinos, MD, MSc
Medicaid and Behavioral Health Medical Director

cc: Andrea Allen, Occupational Nurse Consultant, CQCT, HCA
Aren Sparck, Tribal Affairs Administrator, OTA, HCA
Ann Myers, State Plan Coordinator, DLS, HCA