



Department of Health Care Services
MEMORANDUM

DATE: November 19, 2012

TO: Tribal Chairpersons, California Indian Health Programs and Urban Indian Organizations

FROM: Sandra "Sam" Willburn, Chief, Primary and Rural Health Division 

SUBJECT: Notice of Proposed Change to the Medi-Cal Program

The purpose of this memo is to provide information regarding a proposed change to the Department of Health Care Services' (DHCS) Medi-Cal Program that will be submitted to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). DHCS is forwarding this information for your review and comment.

DHCS is required to seek advice from designees of Indian Health Programs and Urban Indian Organizations on Medi-Cal matters having a direct effect on Indians, Indian Health Programs or Urban Indian Organizations per the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA). DHCS must solicit the advice of designees prior to submission to CMS of any State Plan Amendment (SPA), waiver requests or modifications, or proposals for demonstration projects in the Medi-Cal program.

SPA 12-027 Affordable Care Act, Section 4107 Tobacco Cessation: SPA 12-027 will amend the California State Plan to adhere to the Affordable Care Act (ACA) Section 4107, which requires Medi-Cal to cover comprehensive tobacco cessation services for pregnant women from the prenatal period through the postpartum period (60-days following termination of pregnancy). Please see the enclosed summary of the SPA 12-027 for a detailed description and contact information for questions or comments.

QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS:

Indian Health Programs and Urban Indian Organizations may submit written comments or questions concerning this SPA within 30 days from the receipt of this notice. Comments or questions may be sent by mail or email to the address below:

Contact Information:

Kathryn Waje
Administrative Support Unit
Utilization Management Division
1501 Capitol Avenue, MS 4506
Sacramento, CA 95814
Kathryn.Waje@dhcs.ca.gov

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In addition to this notice, DHCS plans to cover this SPA in the next quarterly Medi-Cal Indian Health webinar. Please note that Indian Health Programs and Urban Indian Organizations may also request a consultation on this proposal at any time as needed.

Enclosure

**Department of Health Care Services (DHCS)
Benefits Division
Affordable Care Act, Section 4107 Tobacco Cessation
State Plan Amendment (SPA) Number 12-027**

Background:

State Plan Amendment (SPA) 12-027 will amend the California State Plan to adhere to the Affordable Care Act (ACA) Section 4107, which requires Medi-Cal to cover comprehensive tobacco cessation services for pregnant women from the prenatal period through the postpartum period (60-days following termination of pregnancy).

Description of the SPA, Waiver, or Demonstration Project:

DHCS plans to submit a SPA to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) to enable Medi-Cal to adhere to the ACA's mandate to provide diagnosis, treatment, counseling, and medications for cessation of tobacco use by pregnant women, who use tobacco products or are attempting to quit using tobacco.

Impact to Indian Health Programs and Urban Indian Health Organizations:

- **Impact on Indian Health Programs**
Tobacco cessation services are a mandatory Medi-Cal benefit under ACA. Indian Health Programs and Urban Indian Health Organizations are impacted because tobacco cessation services to pregnant women will be a covered Medi-Cal benefit.

- **Impact on Indian Medi-Cal Beneficiaries**
This SPA will positively impact pregnant American Indian and Alaskan Native Medi-Cal beneficiaries because it will enable them to receive tobacco cessation services.

Response Date:

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