



Department of Health Care Services
MEMORANDUM

DATE: September 5, 2013

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, waiver requests or modifications, or proposals for demonstration projects in the Medi-Cal program.

State Plan Amendment (SPA) 13-038 Substance Use Disorder (SUD) Service Expansion: DHCS plans to submit SPA 13-038 to the CMS to seek approval to expand certain SUD services to all Medi-Cal beneficiaries as required per Senate Bill (SB) x1 1 (Hernandez, Chapter 4, Statutes of 2013) Section 29. SB x1 1 added Welfare and Institutions Code §14131.03, which allows DHCS to provide these SUD services to an expanded Medi-Cal population. Please see the enclosed summary of the SPA 13-038 for a detailed description and contact information for questions or comments.

DHCS will hold a teleconference to provide an opportunity to discuss and provide for immediate feedback regarding SPA 13-038. The teleconference will be held from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. on Monday, September 16, 2013. To participate in this teleconference dial toll-free, 1-800-369-1972. When asked for a participant code number please respond "DHCS". Please note this SPA is scheduled for submission on or before September 30, 2013.

QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS:

Indian Health Programs and Urban Indian Organizations may submit written comments or questions concerning this proposal prior to the scheduled submission date. Comments or feedback may be sent by email to Kathryn.Waje@dhcs.ca.gov or by mail to the address below:

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Contact Information:

Kathryn Waje
Administrative Support Unit
Utilization Management Division
1501 Capitol Avenue, MS 4506
Sacramento, CA 95814

Enclosure

**Benefits Division
Department of Health Care Services (DHCS)
State Plan Amendment (SPA) 13-038
Substance Use Disorder (SUD) Service Expansion**

Background:

The passage of Senate Bill (SB) x1 1 allows the expansion of certain Substance Use Disorder (SUD) services to all Medi-Cal beneficiaries. SB x1 1 specifically adds Section 14132.03 to the Welfare and Institutions (W&I) Code, which allows DHCS to provide these SUD Services to an expanded Medi-Cal population.

Description of the SPA and Effective Date:

DHCS will submit SPA 13-038 to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services to expand the following SUD services to all Medi-Cal beneficiaries per W&I Code 14132.03:

- Intensive outpatient treatment services
- Residential treatment services
- Voluntary inpatient detoxification

These services are required to be delivered by certified Drug Medi-Cal providers who are substance use disorder treatment professionals. These providers must function within the scope of their practice as defined in the California Code of Regulations. The proposed effective date of this SPA is January 1, 2014

Impact to Indian Health Programs and Urban Indian Organizations:

- **Impact on Indian Health Programs**
To the extent that an Indian Health Program is a certified Drug Medi-Cal provider this proposal may increase the number of individuals seeking SUD services at these facilities.
- **Impact on Indian Medi-Cal Beneficiaries**
This SPA may impact American Indian Medi-Cal beneficiaries by expanding access to SUD services.

Response Date:

DHCS plans to conduct a teleconference on Monday, September 16, 2013 from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. to allow for your immediate feedback and to provide an opportunity for us to discuss this proposal. Comments may be sent by email or mail to the address below:

Kathryn Waje
Administrative Support Unit
Utilization Management Division
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Sacramento, CA 95814
Kathryn.waje@dhcs.ca.gov