Ms. Henrietta Sam-Louie,  
Associate Regional Administrator  
Division of Medicaid and Children’s Health Operations  
Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services  
San Francisco Regional Office  
90 Seventh Street, Suite 5-300 (5W)  
San Francisco, CA 94103-6706  

STATE PLAN AMENDMENT 16-025  

Dear Ms. Sam-Louie:  

The Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) is submitting State Plan Amendment (SPA) 16-025 for your review and approval. SPA 16-025 will restore acupuncture services as a covered benefit under Medi-Cal to all eligible Medi-Cal beneficiaries and make some technical cleanup to remove the references to the psychology benefit, that was restored with the approval of SPA 13-008. The effective date will be July 1, 2016.

As required by Welfare and Institutions Code, Section 14131.10, SPA 09-001 limited some optional benefits, including acupuncture services, to beneficiaries eligible for the Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic, and Treatment benefit and pregnant women for conditions that might complicate their pregnancy. Senate Bill 833 (Committee on Budget and Fiscal Review, Chapter 30, Statutes of 2016) restored acupuncture as an optional benefit available to all eligible beneficiaries, subject to federal approval. Acupuncture services will be restored for all eligible beneficiaries at Federally Qualified Health Centers, Rural Health Clinics, and Indian Health Services clinics.

SPA 16-025 revises language to the provisions set forth in the following sections of the State Plan:
- Limitations on Attachment 3.1-A and 3.1-B page 3B
- Limitations on Attachment 3.1-A and 3.1-B page 3D
- Limitations on Attachment 3.1-A and 3.1-B page 12
- Limitations on Attachment 3.1-A and 3.1-B page 15
- Supplement 6 Attachment 4.19B page 2
- Supplement 6 Attachment 4.19B page 2a
The federal fiscal impact is projected to be $1,071,000 in federal fiscal year (FFY) 2016 and $4,284,000 in FFY 2017.

DHCS will submit SPA 16-027, this quarter, to restore acupuncture services in the Alternative Benefit Plan. DHCS published a tribal notice for SPA 16-025 and 16-027 on June 30, 2016, and will hold a tribal webinar on August 30, 2016. DHCS published a public notice on July 1, 2016, for SPA 16-025 and 16-027. DHCS received one comment about the tribal notice on July 21, 2016, asking about the effective date for the SPA.

If you have any questions regarding the information provided, please contact Ms. Cynthia Owens, Chief (Acting), Benefits Division, by phone at (916) 552-9400 or by email at Cynthia.Owens@dhcs.ca.gov.

ORIGINAL SIGNED

Chief Deputy Director
Health Care Programs
State Medicaid Director

Enclosures

cc: Cynthia Nanes
Division of Medicaid and Children’s Health Operations
Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services
San Francisco Regional Office
90 Seventh Street, Suite 5-300(5W)
San Francisco, CA 94103-6706
TRANSMITTAL AND NOTICE OF APPROVAL OF STATE PLAN MATERIAL

FOR: HEALTH CARE FINANCING ADMINISTRATION

TO: REGIONAL ADMINISTRATOR
HEALTH CARE FINANCING ADMINISTRATION
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

5. TYPE OF PLAN MATERIAL: (Check One):
   ☒ AMENDMENT
   ☐ NEW STATE PLAN
   ☐ AMENDMENT TO BE CONSIDERED AS NEW PLAN

COMPLETE BLOCKS 6 THRU 10 IF THIS IS AN AMENDMENT (SEPARATE TRANSMITTAL FOR EACH AMENDMENT)

6. FEDERAL STATUTE/REGULATION CITATION:
SSA 1905(a)(6); 42 CFR 440.60

7. FEDERAL BUDGET IMPACT:
   a. FFY 2016 $1,071,000
   b. FFY 2017 $4,284,000

8. PAGE NUMBER OF THE PLAN SECTION OR ATTACHMENT:
   Limitations on Attachment 3.1-A pg 3b
   Limitations on Attachment 3.1-A pg 3d
   Limitations on Attachment 3.1-A pg 12
   Limitations on Attachment 3.1-A pg 15
   Limitations on Attachment 3.1-B pg 3b
   Limitations on Attachment 3.1-B pg 3d
   Limitations on Attachment 3.1-B pg 12
   Limitations on Attachment 3.1-B pg 15
   Supplement 6 Attachment 4.19B pg 2
   Supplement 6 Attachment 4.19B pg 2a

9. PAGE NUMBER OF THE SUPERSEDED PLAN SECTION OR ATTACHMENT (IF APPLICABLE):
   Limitations on Attachment 3.1-A pg 3b
   Limitations on Attachment 3.1-A pg 3d
   Limitations on Attachment 3.1-A pg 12
   Limitations on Attachment 3.1-A pg 15
   Limitations on Attachment 3.1-B pg 3b
   Limitations on Attachment 3.1-B pg 3d
   Limitations on Attachment 3.1-B pg 12
   Limitations on Attachment 3.1-B pg 15
   Supplement 6 Attachment 4.19B pg 2
   Supplement 6 Attachment 4.19B pg 2a

10. SUBJECT OF AMENDMENT:
    Restores acupuncture services as a covered benefit under Medi-Cal.

11. GOVERNOR'S REVIEW (CHECK ONE):
    ☒ GOVERNOR'S OFFICE REPORTED NO COMMENT
    ☐ COMMENTS OF GOVERNOR'S OFFICE ENCLOSED
    ☐ NO REPLY RECEIVED WITHIN 45 DAYS OF SUBMITAL
    ☒ OTHER, AS SPECIFIED:
    The Governor's Office does not wish to review the State Plan Amendment.

14. TITLE:
    Chief Deputy Director
    Health Care Programs
    State Medicaid Director

15. DATE SUBMITTED:
    AUG 12 2016

16. RETURN TO:
    Department of Health Care Services
    Attn: State Plan Coordinator
    1501 Capitol Avenue, MS 4506
    P.O. Box 997417
    Sacramento, CA 95899-7417

18. DATE APPROVED:

22. TITLE:
REIMBURSEMENT FOR INDIAN HEALTH SERVICES
AND TRIBAL 638 HEALTH FACILITIES

A. Below is a list of health professionals that may bill under the IHS all-inclusive rate:
   • Physician
   • Physician Assistant
   • Nurse Practitioner
   • Nurse Midwife
   • Registered Dental Hygienists
   • Registered Dental Hygienists in Extended Functions
   • Registered Dental Hygienists in Alternative Practice
   • Clinical Psychologist
   • Clinical Social Worker
   • Marriage and Family Therapist
   • Acupuncturist
   • Visiting Nurse if services are provided in the Tribal facilities
   • Comprehensive Perinatal Services Program (CPSP) Registered Nurse, Dietitian, Health Educator, Childbirth Educator, Licensed Vocational Nurse, Licensed Midwife, and Comprehensive Perinatal Health Worker. A September 17, 1985 HCFA letter allows these services as a physician or clinic service.
   • Under the Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic, and Treatment benefit (EPSDT), the services of Licensed Marriage, Family and Child Counselors are available as 'other health visit' to persons under 21 years of age, as a result of an EPSDT screening which identifies the need for a service which is necessary to correct or ameliorate a mental illness or condition.

B. In addition, below is a list of interns that may provide Medi-Cal psychology services.
   • Registered Marriage and Family Therapists Interns
   • Registered Associate Clinical Social Workers
   • Psychological Assistants

   Interns must be under the supervision of a licensed mental health professional, in accordance with the requirements of applicable state laws.

C. Except for the services specified under Item D below, the following other ambulatory services, but not limited to, provided by health professional can be billed under the IHS all-inclusive rate.
   • Acupuncture
   • Medical and surgical services provided by a doctor of dental medicine or dental surgery, which if provided by a physician would be considered physician services
   • Physical Therapy
   • Occupational Therapy
   • Drug and Alcohol visits (Subject to Medi-Cal provider participation requirements)
   • Telemedicine and teledentistry
   • Optometry (Eyeglasses and other eye appliances are restricted to beneficiaries identified under Item D below)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TYPE OF SERVICE</th>
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<td>7d Physical and occupational therapy, speech therapy and audiology services provided by a home health agency.</td>
<td>See 11. The two-visit limit does not apply to therapies provided in the home health setting.</td>
<td>See 11.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 Special duty nursing services.</td>
<td>Not covered</td>
<td>Refer to appropriate service section for prior authorization requirements</td>
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</table>
| 9 Clinic services | Clinic services are covered under this state plan. Clinic services means preventive, diagnostic, therapeutic, rehabilitative, or palliative services that are furnished by a facility that is not part of a hospital but is organized and operated to provide medical care to outpatients. Clinic services include outpatient heroin or other opioid detoxification services. Services shall be furnished at the clinic by or under the direction of a physician or dentist. Audiology, chiropractic, dental, incontinence creams and washes, optometry, podiatry, and speech therapy are covered optional benefits only for the following beneficiaries:  
- Pregnant women, if the optional benefit is part of their pregnancy-related services or services for a condition that might complicate the pregnancy.  
- Individuals who are eligible for the Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic and Treatment benefit. | Narcotic Treatment Programs pursuant to federal and state regulations are the only facilities that may administer methadone for heroin or other opioid detoxification services. Other narcotic drugs permitted by federal law may be used for outpatient heroin or other opioid detoxification services at any outpatient clinic or physician office setting where the medical staff has appropriate state and federal certifications for treatment of opioid dependence outside of Narcotic Treatment Programs. Refer to type of service “5a Physician Services” for prior authorization and other requirements for outpatient heroin or other opioid detoxification services. |

*Prior authorization is not required for emergency services.**Coverage is limited to medically necessary services.
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| 2b. Rural Health Clinic services and other ambulatory services covered under the state plan. | Audiology, chiropractic, podiatry, and speech therapy are covered optional benefits only for the following beneficiaries:  
1. Pregnant women, if the optional benefit is part of their pregnancy-related services or services for a condition that might complicate the pregnancy.  
2. Individuals who are eligible for the Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic and Treatment benefit.  
The following services are limited to a maximum of two services in any one calendar month or any combination of two services per month from the following services, although additional services can be provided based on medical necessity: acupuncture, audiology, chiropractic, occupational therapy, podiatry, and speech therapy.  
Federally required adult dental services are covered in RHCs for all Medi-Cal beneficiaries. |                                                                  |

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<td>2c and 2d Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) services and other ambulatory services covered under the state plan (continued).</td>
<td>4. Certified Nurse Midwife (CNM) who is authorized to practice nursing and midwifery services by the State and who is acting within the scope of his/her license</td>
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<td>6. Comprehensive Perinatal Services Program (CPSP) practitioner services</td>
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<td>7. Licensed clinical social worker services who is authorized to practice social work services by the State and who is acting within the scope of his/her license</td>
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TN No. 16-025
Supersedes
TN No. 13-018

Approval Date: ________
Effective Date: 7/1/16
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<td>6d.3 Acupuncture services</td>
<td>Covered to prevent, modify, or alleviate the perception of severe, persistent chronic pain resulting from a generally recognized medical condition. Outpatient acupuncture services are subject to a two-services limit in any one calendar month or any combination of two services per month from the following services, although additional services can be provided based upon medical necessity through the TAR process: audiology, chiropractic, occupational therapy, podiatry, and speech therapy.</td>
<td>TAR is required for an acupuncture service visit that exceeds the two-visit limit.</td>
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TN No. 16-025
Supersedes
TN No. 13-008

Approval Date: ________
Effective Date: 7/1/16
D. Audiology, chiropractic, eyeglasses and other appliances, podiatry, and speech therapy are covered benefits under this state plan only for the following beneficiaries:

1. Pregnant women, if the optional benefit is part of their pregnancy-related services or services for a condition that might complicate the pregnancy.
2. Individuals who are eligible for the Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic and Treatment benefit.
DATE: June 30, 2016

TO: Tribal Chairpersons, Designees of Indian Health Programs, and Urban Indian Organizations

FROM: Sandra “Sam” Willburn, Chief, Primary, Rural, and Indian 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.

Please see the enclosed summary for a detailed description of this DHCS proposal.

QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS:
Indian Health Programs and Urban Indian Organizations may also submit written comments or questions concerning this proposal within 30 days from the receipt of notice. Comments may be sent by email to Nathaniel.Emery@dhcs.ca.gov or by mail to the address below:

Contact Information
Nathaniel Emery
Clinical Assurance and Administrative Support Division
Department of Health Care Services
MS 4506
P.O. Box 997413
Sacramento, CA 95899-7413

Please note that Indian Health Programs and Urban Indian Organizations may also request a consultation on this proposal at any time as needed.

Enclosure
PURPOSE: DHCS proposes to submit State Plan Amendments (SPA) 16-025 and 16-027 to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services to seek the necessary approvals to restore acupuncture services as a covered benefit under Medi-Cal, pursuant to Senate Bill (SB) 833 in the State Plan and in the Alternative Benefit Plan (ABP).

BACKGROUND
Existing law provides for a schedule of benefits under Medi-Cal, which includes specified outpatient services including acupuncture to the extent federal matching funds are provided. Welfare and Institutions (W&I) Code 2 excludes certain optional benefits, including acupuncture from coverage under Medi-Cal except for beneficiaries who qualify for Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic, and Treatment services; pregnant women for the treatment of other conditions that might complicate the pregnancy; and beneficiaries receiving long-term care in a nursing facility that is both a skilled nursing facility or intermediate care facility.

SUMMARY OF PROPOSED CHANGES
Effective July 1, 2016, as authorized by SB 833, Medi-Cal intends to restore acupuncture services as an optional benefit for all eligible beneficiaries. Acupuncture services will only be restored to the extent that federal financial participation is available and necessary federal approvals are obtained. Acupuncture benefits provided under the Medi-Cal ABP will be the same schedule of acupuncture benefits provided to Medi-Cal beneficiaries, as required by the W&I Code 3.

IMPACT TO TRIBAL HEALTH PROGRAMS
SPA 16-025 and SPA 16-027 will restore acupuncture services to the list of benefits available to all eligible Medi-Cal beneficiaries, including newly eligible adults. Restoring acupuncture services may impact Indian Health Programs and Urban Indian Organizations, because providers may experience an increase in Medi-Cal beneficiaries accessing services.

IMPACT TO FEDERALLY QUALIFIED HEALTH CENTERS (FQHCs)
SPA 16-025 and SPA 16-027 may impact Safety Net Clinics because DHCS is restoring acupuncture services as a Medi-Cal benefit for all eligible beneficiaries, including newly eligible adults, and as a result Safety Net Clinics may experience an increase in Medi-Cal beneficiaries accessing services.

IMPACT TO INDIAN MEDI-CAL BENEFICIARIES

1 SB 833 Health (Committee on Budget and Fiscal Review, Chapter 30, Statutes of 2016)
2 Welfare and Institutions Code Section 14131.10
3 Welfare and Institutions Code Section 14132.02(a)
All eligible Indian Medi-Cal beneficiaries will be able to receive acupuncture services as medically necessary as a covered Medi-Cal benefit.

RESPONSE DATE
Indian Health Programs and Urban Indian Organizations may submit written comments or questions concerning this proposal within 30 days from the receipt of notice. Comments may be sent by email to Nathaniel.Emery@dhcs.ca.gov or by mail to:

Nathaniel Emery
Clinical Assurance and Administrative Support Division
Department of Health Care Services
MS 4506
P.O. Box 997413
Sacramento, CA 95899-7413
SPA Impact Form

State/Title/Plan Number: California//Acupuncture Services/16-025

Federal Fiscal Impact: 2016: $1,071,000  2017: $4,284,000

Number of People Affected by Enhanced Coverage, Benefits or Retained Eligibility: All eligible Medi-Cal beneficiaries

Number of Potential Newly Eligible People: All eligible Medi-Cal beneficiaries

Eligibility Simplification: No

Number of People Losing Medicaid Eligibility: None

Reduces Benefits: No

Provider Payment Increase: No

Delivery System Innovation: No

Comments/Remarks: SPA 16-025 will restore acupuncture services as a covered benefit under the Medi-Cal program for all eligible beneficiaries, pursuant to Senate Bill (SB) 833 (2016, Committee on Budget and Fiscal Review).

DHS Contact: Mayra Cano 916-552-9652

Date: July 7, 2016