



ALASKA NATIVE TRIBAL HEALTH CONSORTIUM

Administration
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February 10, 2015

Ms. Gennifer Moreau, Medicaid State Plan Coordinator
Department of Health and Social Services
Division of Health Care Services
4501 Business Park Blvd., Suite 24, Bldg. L
Anchorage, Alaska 99503-7167
Fax: 907-561-1684
gennifer.moreau@alaska.gov

Re: Request for a Meeting to Discuss Proposed State Plan Amendment
regarding Payment for Physician Assistants, Community Health Aides,
Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists, and Nutritionists

Dear Ms. Moreau:

Thank you for notifying us of the proposed State Plan Amendment that would describe payment methodologies for certain non-physician practitioners. We respectfully request a meeting to discuss the proposal at the Department's earliest convenience. We also ask that the Department extend the written comment deadline until two weeks after our meeting, so that our written comments may reflect and be informed by the discussion.

We understand the Department's intention is to correct a problem that was inadvertently created by an earlier SPA, when language regarding "physician collaborators" was changed. We appreciate and strongly endorse that intention. However, we see potential for the current draft to inadvertently create other problems and would like to better understand the Department's proposal before submitting comments and suggesting potential changes. We would, of course, welcome the participation of other interested Tribal Health Leaders in the discussion.

We suggest the meeting include the Department's Deputy Commissioner Jon Sherwood and Tribal Program Manager, Renee Gayhart. Because of the technical complexity of the issues, we would also like to include our Chief Financial Officer, Garvin Federenko and our outside legal counsel, Myra Munson and Kay Gouwens of Sonosky, Chambers, Sachse, Miller & Munson, LLP. A time on either Thursday after 2 p.m. (2/12) or Friday (2/13) would work well for us, although we would be happy to look at other times if needed to accommodate the Department's schedule. Please feel free to contact (729-1926) me or Jerry Moses (729-1908) to discuss scheduling. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Nacole Heslep, General Counsel

cc: Jerry Moses
Garvin Federenko
Myra Munson
Kay Gouwens