

February 25, 2022

Dear Tribal Consultation Members:

This letter is regarding the Tribal Consultation between the North Dakota Department of Human Services and the North Dakota Indian Tribes. The consultation process was established to ensure Tribal governments are included in the decision-making processes when proposed changes in the Medicaid or Children's Health Insurance Program(s) will directly impact the North Dakota Tribes and/or their Tribal members.

### **Clinical Trials**

Effective January 1, 2022, North Dakota Medicaid will be submitting a State Plan Amendment to provide coverage of routine patient costs for members participating in qualifying clinical trials to comply with the 2021 Consolidated Appropriation Act.

### **Disaster Relief**

North Dakota Medicaid will be submitting disaster relief State Plan Amendments to modify or waive certain requirements as a result of the COVID-19 National Emergency. The provisions of this state plan amendment (SPA) will be effective March 11, 2021 and will expire on the last day of the first calendar quarter that begins one year after the last day of the public health emergency. The following items will be included in the disaster relief state plan amendments:

- Modification of the requirement to submit the SPAs by March 31, 2021, to obtain an effective date during the first calendar quarter of 2021, pursuant to 42 CFR 430.20.
- Waiver of public notice requirements that would otherwise apply to these SPA submissions.
- ND Medicaid State plan allows for expedited consultation in certain circumstances. North Dakota is issuing written consultation for these disaster SPAs.
- Coverage of COVID-19 vaccines and administration of the vaccines.
- Coverage for any medically necessary COVID-19 vaccine counseling for children under the age of 21.
- Coverage of COVID-19 testing consistent with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) definitions of diagnostic and screening testing for COVID-19 and its recommendations for who should receive diagnostic and screening tests for COVID-19.
- Coverage of COVID-19 treatment, including specialized equipment and therapies.

### **MEDICAL SERVICES**


### **Correct Coding Initiative**

North Dakota Medicaid follows the National Correct Coding Initiative (NCCI) Edits. These edits were developed by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMCS) based on coding conventions defined in the American Medical Association's Correct Procedure Terminology Manual, national and local polices and edits, coding guidelines developed by national societies, analysis of standard medical and surgical practices and a review of current coding practices. CMS annually updates the Medicaid NCCI Policy Manual and the Medicaid NCCI Technical Guidance Manual. For more information go to <https://www.medicaid.gov/medicaid/program-integrity/national-correct-coding-initiative-medicaid/index.html>

Please send comments, questions or concerns about the proposed State Plan Amendments or waivers to Medical Services, Attention: Tribal Consultation; 600 East Boulevard Avenue, Department 325, Bismarck, ND 58505. You may also send information via e-mail to [ndmedicaid@nd.gov](mailto:ndmedicaid@nd.gov).

The Department appreciates the continued opportunity to work collaboratively with you to achieve the Department's mission, which is, "To provide quality, efficient, and effective human services, which improve the lives of people."

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Caprice Knapp". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Caprice Knapp, Director  
Medical Services Division