



## SPECIAL TRIBAL CONSULTATION TELECONFERENCE

November 23, 2015

Conference Bridge: 1-877-820-7831, Participant Passcode: 108903#

### NOTIFICATION TO TRIBES:

Good Morning,

This is to invite you to participate in a Special Tribal Consultation Teleconference on **November 23, 2015 at 9:00 p.m. (MST)**. Discussion will focus on **Hospice and Air Ambulance Rates**. The meeting agenda is attached for your information. Teleconference number: **1-877-820-7831**, Participant code: **108903#**.

Feel free to contact me if you have questions regarding this meeting.

*Bonnie*

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#### **Bonnie Talakte**

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### AGENDA



## SPECIAL TRIBAL CONSULTATION TELECONFERENCE

With Tribal Leaders, Tribal Members, Indian Health Services, Tribal Health Programs  
Operated Under P.L. 93-638 and Urban Indian Health Programs

**Date: November 23, 2015**

**Time: 9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. (MST)**

**Conference Call-In: 1-877-820-7831 Participant Passcode: 108903#**

9:00 A.M.	Welcome & Introductions	Bonnie Talakte, Tribal Relations Liaison AHCCCS
	<p>1. <u>Hospice Rates</u> Effective 01/01/2016, Medicare will be implementing a new rate structure for Hospice reimbursement; AHCCCS is also required to implement the change. The new method replaces the single Routine Home Care per diem rate with two different payment rates based on duration of service, and introduces a Service Intensity Add-on payment for services during the last 7 days of the patient's life. This will require a State Plan Amendment.</p> <p>2. <u>Air Transportation Rates:</u> Effective 01/01/2016, AHCCCS will increase its Fee-For-Service reimbursement rates for Air Ambulance services. This will require a State Plan Amendment.</p>	Victoria Burns, Reimbursement Administrator AHCCCS
10:00 A.M.	Wrap-Up/Adjourn	Bonnie Talakte

**ATTENDEES:**

I/T/Us	<p><u>Chinle Comprehensive Health:</u> LaDonna Tom  <u>Fort Defiance Indian Health Care:</u> Sharon Joe, Arlinda Scott, Roberta Munoz  <u>Native Health:</u> Donna Johnson, Steve Wiez  <u>Navajo Area IHS:</u> Marie Keyonnie  <u>Phoenix Area IHS:</u> Carol Chicharello  <u>Phoenix Indian Health Center:</u> Doreen Pawn, Jim Mase  <u>Tuba City Regional Health Care Corporation:</u> Bill Dey, Violet Skinner  <u>Tucson Area IHS:</u> Adam Archuleta, Dan Marino  <u>Tucson Indian Center:</u> Phoebe Mills  <u>Winslow Indian Health Care Center:</u> Beverly Lewis, Randy Cribbs, Cecelia Jackson, Alutha Yellowhair</p>
State Agencies	<u>Advisory Council on Indian Health Care:</u> Kim Russell
AHCCCS Representatives	Shelli Silver, Bonnie Talakte, Theresa Gonzales, Jeanne Golden-Burke, Victoria Burns, Arturo Cruz

## MEETING SUMMARY

TOPICS	SUMMARY
<b>Hospice Rates</b>	<p><b>Presenter:</b> Victoria Burns, AHCCCS Reimbursement Administrator, Division of Health Care Management</p> <p>Meeting participants were informed of a change to AHCCCS Hospice rates effective for dates of service on and after January 1, 2016. The stated reason for the change is to conform to a new Medicare rate structure for Hospice. The change will require a State Plan Amendment and will affect only reimbursement for Routine Home Care services typically billed using revenue code 0651. No other Hospice services will be impacted.</p> <p>The nature of the change is as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Higher per diem rate for first 60 days of Hospice care</li> <li>• Lower per diem rate beginning with Day 61 of the Hospice Care</li> </ul> <p>Service intensity Add-On rate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• For registered nurse or social worker</li> <li>• Applies to the last 7 days of member's life</li> <li>• Per hour rate, for maximum 4 hours per day</li> <li>• Equal to hourly rate for Continuous Home Care</li> </ul> <p>The days prior to January 1, 2016 will count in an episode of care. However, new rates will take effect January 1, 2016. AHCCCS system changes are in progress. It is not yet known what billing changes, if any, will be necessary.</p> <p><b>No questions were asked</b></p>
<b>Question &amp; Answer</b>	
<b>Air Ambulance Rates</b>	<p><b>Presenter:</b> Victoria Burns, AHCCCS Reimbursement Administrator, Division of Health Care Management</p> <p>Meeting participants were informed of a change to AHCCCS Air ambulance rates, effective for dates of service on and after January 1, 2016. The stated reason for the change is to bring AHCCCS rates into better alignment with other western states. The change will require a State Plan Amendment and will affect reimbursement for the following services. Neonatal transport rate will not change.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase in Fixed Wing base rate</li> <li>• Increase in Rotary Wing base rate</li> <li>• Decrease in Air Transport mileage</li> </ul> <p>Estimated Fee for service impact: + \$930,000 for January 2016 through September 2016</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Aggregate +9.6% for the services affected by the rate changes</li> <li>• Aggregate +8.1% overall Air Transportation spend</li> </ul>
<b>Question &amp; Answer</b>	<p><b>Q:</b> Where is the rate adjustment posted?  <b>A:</b> The rates are posted to the AHCCCs website. Bonnie will also send to the tribal listserv.</p> <p><b>Q:</b> Will the rate change affect ground transportation?  <b>A:</b> The rate only affects air transportation.</p>