



04.03.24 - NE Tribal/Medicaid Monthly Call Agenda

Conference Access Number (888) 820-1398

Attendee Code- 7300221

Present: Jacob Kawamoto (MLTC – Policy), Aaron Reece (MLTC – Health Services), Jeshena Gold (MLTC – Plan Management), Jackie Orth (MLTC – Eligibility), Tashina Provost (Omaha), Crystal Appleton (Omaha), Donna Morris (Omaha), Becky Crase (Ponca), RickyAnn Fletcher (Ponca), Sylvia Allen-Lopez (Ponca), Vietta Swalley (Santee), Nancy Mackey (Santee), Gelisha Palma (Molina), Kiernan Scott (Molina – Tribal Liaison), Angi Tran (Molina), Jeanine Fitzpatrick (Molina), Cynthia Goslin (UHC – Tribal Liaison), Tracy Nelson (UHC), Kara Urkoski (UHC), Tuesday Kuhlman (NTC – Tribal Liaison), Heather Leschinsky (HealthyBlue NE), Stacey Steiner (CMS),

State Plan Amendment (SPA)/Waiver Updates

- SPA
 - NE 24-0016: Medicaid Insurance for Workers with Disabilities (MIWD) premiums
 - Effective May 1, 2024, Medicaid beneficiaries enrolled in the [MIWD program](#) with income 200 percent or more but less than 250 percent of the Federal Poverty Level will have a monthly premium applied which must be paid in order to receive coverage for the benefit month. This SPA will not have an impact on the Tribes as cost-sharing provisions do not apply to the Tribes.
 - NE 24-0017: Temporary Extension of Transitional Medical Assistance (TMA) Program Premiums
 - The suspension of TMA premiums is currently approved through a Disaster Relief SPA extension which is set to expire on May 12, 2024. This SPA will extend the suspension of premiums for an additional six months. This SPA will not impact the Tribes as premiums are waived for those with a Tribal affiliation.
 - NE 24-0018: Discontinuance of Copayments
 - Effective May 1, 2024, Medicaid beneficiaries will no longer have to pay a copayment when receiving Medicaid services.
 - NE 24-0019: Katie Beckett Program Update
 - Effective July 1, 2024, the SPA would expand the [Katie Beckett program](#) level of care eligibility requirements to include the intermediate care facility level of care. If a child meets the ICF level of care, and all other eligibility requirements, they may be eligible for the Katie Beckett program.
- Waiver Authority
 - None

Additional Items

- **Note:** Jacob will be out of the office at the end of April from April 22nd – May 1st.

- Appendix 477-000-052 Updates
 - The Non-MAGI Resource Verification Plan appendix chapter ([477-000-052](#)) was updated to reflect that Direct Express cards can be verified via client attestation.
- Dental Billing Guidance
 - MLTC is coordinating with the MCOs and finalizing guidance for dental prior authorizations and billing requirements. Detailed written guidance will be included with the February 2024 quarterly Medicaid Tribal Consultation meeting minutes.
 - **QUESTION (Ponca):** There have been several issues with the service/code 4910, and Ponca is seeing a lot of denials for this service.
 - Ponca is specifically seeing these denials with Molina and Involve Dental.
 - (Cont.) MLTC has previously stated that they would not allow for post-authorizations, but would MLTC reconsider this? It is difficult to get an appointment set up with beneficiaries, and many of them have not seen a dentist in a long time. As such, it is hard to know which services will need to be provided until the dentist and hygienists see the patient. The dentist and hygienists want to provide those services as soon as possible and ideally would provide them that day. However, if the patient needs services that require prior authorizations, they will have to schedule another appointment and it could end up being months before the beneficiary is able to get back in to see the dentist.
 - Santee agreed that this is an issue at their clinic too and that allowing for post-authorizations would be beneficial to their dental clinic's operations.
 - **ANSWER:** MLTC will take this back for consideration as they work with the MCOs to finalize dental billing guidance.
 - **QUESTION (MLTC):** Do the cleanings require prior authorizations?
 - **ANSWER (Ponca):** No, but when someone is a new patient, the hygienists and dentists don't know what kind of cleaning the patient will need until they see them. So, the appointment may be scheduled for a routine cleaning, but they may find it medically necessary and appropriate to treat for perio-scaling, a broken tooth, etc. In these cases, the Tribes would still be able to submit all the medical necessity documentation in a post-authorization for the service(s).
 - **QUESTION (Ponca):** The NMES line is available for verification – is the state also going to do a website to check patient eligibility?
 - **ANSWER (Ponca):** Provider can access the NMES line online – Sylvia to work with RickyAnn.
 - **ANSWER (NTC):** The NMES line does list the beneficiary's MCO for dental coverage.
 - **QUESTION (Ponca):** For service codes 5213 and 5214, the handbook says these services are for patients 20 and under, but 99% of these services are provided to adults. MCNA used to be approved as medically necessary.
 - **ANSWER (MLTC):** A meeting is being held with the MCO dental directors this Friday (04/05/24) about those codes and MLTC is in the process of updating regulations and policies to get something in place to support these services for adults.
 - **QUESTION (Ponca):** Still seeing issues with non-Tribal beneficiaries' dental cards listing Ponca's healthcare facilities/providers as their dental providers.
 - **ANSWER (UHC):** If Ponca can send examples to Cynthia, she can help resolve this.
 - **QUESTION:** Which MCO(s) are Ponca and the Tribes seeing this issue with?
 - **ANSWER (Ponca):** Ponca is only seeing this issue with UHC currently.

- Medicare Crossover Claims – UPDATE
 - Santee is working to provide MLTC with the EOBs for outstanding crossover claims from 2018 and 2019 (MLTC already has the EOBs from 2017). MLTC can then reimburse for those remaining outstanding crossover claims.
 - MLTC is still unsure how to resolve the outstanding crossover claims with Omaha, as Omaha's claims records were damaged in the 2019 floods. MLTC has requested a meeting with CMS to discuss this issue and resolution together with Omaha.
 - **QUESTION (CMS):** Did Omaha reach out to Novitas?
 - **ANSWER (Omaha):** Carl T. Curtis Health Center uses WPS as their crossover claims vendor, and WPS wasn't able to assist. Crystal will share that email with Stacey/CMS.
 - **ACTION ITEM:** Stacey will reach out with some times and availability to set up a meeting with CMS, MLTC, and Omaha.
- Public Health Emergency (PHE) Data Sharing Agreements
 - MLTC has received a point of contact for each of the Tribes, and these have been forwarded to the MLTC Legal team who is drafting the Data Sharing Agreement. Once drafted, this will be sent out to the Tribes for review and feedback/approval.
 - **UPDATE:** The Medicaid Policy team has continued to work through the operational considerations involved in establishing, running, and sending out a report of this scope. The MLTC Legal team is working with the DHHS HIPAA/Compliance Office to finalize the draft Data Sharing Agreements, and the Data & Analytics team has been working to run reports that would provide the relevant information.
- Non-Emergency Medical Transportation (NEMT)
 - At the August 2022 Quarterly Consultation meeting, it was agreed that the MCOs and Tribes would discuss how to improve access to transportation services for Tribal beneficiaries.
 - Jacob spoke with the Nebraska Public Service Commission (PSC), brought more information to the November 2023 Tribal Consultation, and sent a follow-up email to each of the Tribes. The Tribes should submit an exemption request to the PSC. If granted the exception, the Tribe will then need to enroll with Maximus as a PSC-exempt NEMT provider and can then provide the approval from the PSC to Maximus to complete this enrollment.
 - PSC contact: PSC.motorfilings@nebraska.gov
- Vietta – if folks are going to stay at the Casino for the upcoming May Tribal Consultation, they should call the Casino directly to reserve the room. The Casino has set aside a block of rooms for the Consultation.
 - The Santee Memorial Walk is scheduled for May 10th – Vietta will share more information about this as she is able to.
- **QUESTION (Omaha/Gidget):** Who should the Carl T. Curtis nursing home contact about the online process for requesting wheelchairs?
 - **QUESTION (MLTC):** Is this through DHHS?
 - **ANSWER (Omaha):** Through NTC.
 - **ANSWER (NTC):** Tuesday will touch base with Gidget and will provide an update on this.
- Becky – Ponca still needs a headcount for the cultural day on May 17th. Those planning to attend should reach out to Becky.
 - Jacob will follow up with a headcount for MLTC/DHHS by the end of the week (04/05/24).

- Each of the MCO Tribal Liaisons confirmed they will be attending.