



Michelle Lujan Grisham, Governor
David R. Scrase, M.D., Secretary
Nicole Comeaux, J.D., M.P.H., Director

April 14, 2021

RE: Tribal Notification to Request Advice and Comments Letter 21-08: Targeted Access Payments (TAPs)

Dear Tribal Leadership, Indian Health Service, Tribal Health Providers, and Other Interested Parties:

Seeking advice and comments from New Mexico's Indian Nations, Tribes, Pueblos and their health care providers is an important component of the government-to-government relationship with the State of New Mexico. In accordance with the New Mexico Human Services Department's (HSD's) Tribal Notification to Request Advice and Comments process, this letter is to inform you that HSD, through the Medical Assistance Division (MAD), is accepting written comments until **5:00pm Mountain Time (MT) on May 14, 2021**, regarding proposed State Plan Amendment 21-0006 Targeted Access Payments (TAPs).

Effective July 1, 2021, the New Mexico Human Services Department proposes to implement targeted access payments for Safety-Net Care Pool (SNCP) hospitals. TAPs are made based on the upper payment limit (UPL) demonstration. SNCP hospitals will be eligible for payments up to their UPL room as defined in their UPL analysis. TAPs are restricted based on UPL analysis and will be made annually. Medicaid fee-for-service utilization is required to be eligible for TAPs.

Tribal Impact

This proposed change will not affect payment rates for services paid at encounter rates or OMB rates. This includes Indian Health Services (IHS) and tribal health facilities.

Tribal Advice and Comments

Tribes and tribal health care providers may view the proposed changes on the HSD website at: <https://www.hsd.state.nm.us/providers/written-tribal-consultations/>, Tribal Notification **21-08**.

Important Dates

Written comments must be submitted by 5:00pm Mountain Time (MT) on May 14, 2021, 2020. Please send your comments to the MAD Native American Liaison, Theresa Belanger, at (505) 670-8067 or by email to Theresa.Belanger@state.nm.us. All written comments received will be posted as they are received on the HSD website at: <https://www.hsd.state.nm.us/providers/written-tribal-consultations/> along with the applicable notification letter. The public posting will include the name and any contact information provided by the commenter.

Sincerely,



Nicole Comeaux, Director
Medical Assistance Division

cc: Lorelei Kellogg, HSD/MAD Deputy Director
Theresa Belanger, Native American Liaison, HSD/MAD