



JIM GIBBONS
Governor

STATE OF NEVADA
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
DIVISION OF HEALTH CARE FINANCING AND POLICY

1100 E. William Street, Suite 101
Carson City, Nevada 89701
(775) 684-3600

MICHAEL J. WILLDEN
Director

CHARLES DUARTE
Administrator

March 15, 2010

Inter-Tribal Council of Nevada
Alvin Moyle, President
Daryl Crawford, Executive Director
P.O. Box 7440
Reno, NV 89510

Indian Health Board of Nevada
Larry Curley, Executive Director
1325 Airmotive Way, Suite 300
Reno, NV 89502

Dear Sirs:

In accordance with established consultation guidelines, the Division of Health Care Financing and Policy (DHCFP) is notifying Nevada tribes of the following proposed changes in policy regarding laboratory services.

Tropism testing is a new laboratory test required prior to physicians prescribing a new category of medications (CCR-5 co receptor inhibitor medications) for recipients with human immunodeficiency virus (HIV). New policy is being added to Medicaid Services Manual (MSM) Chapter 800- Laboratory Services to include coverage and limitations and prior authorization requirements related to this test.

Changes are being made to Medicaid Services Manual (MSM) Chapter 800- Laboratory Services to identify noncovered laboratory services:

- The routine use (e.g. serial testing) of genotype and phenotype tests specifically for individuals with HIV that do not have evidence of virologic failure or suboptimal viral response or that have viral loads maintained at an undetectable level on a current medication regime; and
- Microdissection by laser capture, caffeine halothane contracture testing, deviation from standard blood banking procedures and the unlisted chemistry test.

If you would like a specific consultation regarding this new policy, please contact Glenda Grafton at 775-684-3613 who will schedule a meeting. We would appreciate a reply whether or not you would like this consultation, however if we do not hear from you within 30 days from the date of this letter we will consider that an indication that no consultation is requested.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Charles Duarte".

Charles Duarte
Administrator

Cc: Elizabeth Aiello, Deputy Administrator
Coleen Lawrence, Chief, Program Services
Marta Stagliano, Chief of Compliance
Glenda Grafton, SSPS III, Provider Support