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Governor

STATE OF NEVADA  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES  
**DIVISION OF HEALTH CARE FINANCING AND POLICY**  
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ROMAINE GILLILAND  
*Director*

LAURIE SQUARTSOFF  
*Administrator*

August 13, 2014

Inter-Tribal Council of Nevada  
Executive Board President  
Gerald Temoke, Tribal Chairman  
Elko Band Council  
1745 Silver Eagle Drive  
Elko, Nevada 89801

Dear Tribal Members:

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

The United States Preventive Services Task Force (USPSTF) is an independent, volunteer panel of national experts in prevention and evidence-based medicine. The USPSTF is composed of primary care providers who conduct scientific evidence reviews of a broad range of preventive health care services (such as screening, counseling and preventive medications) and develop recommendations for primary care clinicians. These recommendations are published throughout the year by the USPSTF.

In section 4106 of the Affordable Care Act, it mandates that Medicaid cover “any clinical preventive services that are assigned a grade of A or B by the United States Preventive Services Task Force”. The new/revised recommendations are “B” ratings; it would follow that DHCFP would be required to cover these recommendations under the current mandate. Nevada Medicaid lists these recommendations with a grade A or B in the Medicaid Service Manual (MSM) Chapter 600, Attachment A and the proposed revisions are to update the chapter with new and revised recommendations from the USPSTF.

In section #6-12, Woman’s Preventive Health –Pregnant and Non-Pregnant and #6-13, Men’s Preventive Health, the following changes are being proposed:

- Updated language recommendation that clinicians screen all adults age 18 years or older, including pregnant women, for alcohol misuse and provide persons engaged in risky or hazardous drinking with brief behavioral counseling interventions to reduce alcohol misuse;
- Added language from the USPSTF recommendation for screening gestational diabetes mellitus in asymptomatic pregnant woman after 24 weeks gestation;
- Added language from the USPSTF recommendation for screening hepatitis B virus infection in all persons at high risk for infection;
- Added language for the USPSTF recommendation for screening for hepatitis C virus (HCV) infection in all persons at high risk for infection and a one-time screening for HCV infection to adults born between 1945 and 1965;
- Added language for the USPSTF recommendation that clinicians screen woman of childbearing age for intimate partner violence;

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- Updated language for the USPSTF recommendation for screening of osteoporosis in women aged 65 years and older and in younger woman whose fracture risk is equal to or greater than that of a 65-year old white woman who has no additional risk factors be screened routinely for osteoporosis; and
- Added language for the USPSTF recommendation for counseling children, adolescents, and young adults ages 10 to 24 years who have fair skin about minimizing their exposure to ultraviolet radiation to reduce risk for skin cancer.

In section #6-14, Children's Preventive Health, the following changes are being proposed:

- Updated language for the USPSTF recommendation for fluoride varnish to primary teeth of all infants and children starting at the age of primary tooth eruption in primary care practices;
- Added language for the USPSTF recommendation of application of fluoride varnish to primary teeth of all infants and children starting at the age of 6 months for children whose water supply is fluoride deficient;
- Added language for the USPSTF recommendation for counseling children, adolescents, and young adults ages 10 to 24 years who have fair skin about minimizing their exposure to ultraviolet radiation to reduce risk for skin cancer;
- Added language for the USPSTF recommendation that clinicians provide interventions, including education or brief counseling, to prevent initiation of tobacco use in school-aged children and adolescents; and
- Updated the USPSTF recommendation for vision screening for all children at least once between the ages of 3 and 5 years, to detect the presence of amblyopia or its risk factors.

These screenings and services can be provided as part of an office visit, hospital visit or global fee and may not be billed separately.

There is no fiscal impact anticipated for Provider Type 47, Indian Health Programs (IHPs) with regards to this policy change.

If you would like a consultation regarding this new policy, please contact Tanya Benitez at (775) 684-3722 who will schedule a meeting. We would appreciate a reply within 30 days from the date of this letter. If we do not hear from you we will consider this an indication that no consultation is requested.

Sincerely,



Laurie Squartsoff  
Administrator

Cc: Elizabeth Aiello, Deputy Administrator  
Coleen Lawrence, Chief, Program Services  
Marti Coté, SSC I  
Michele Belkin, Program Specialist II