

Tribal Technical Advisory Group

To the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services

c/o National Indian Health Board 926 Pennsylvania Avenue, SE Washington, DC 20003 (202) 507-4070 (202) 507-4071 fax

Delivered Electronically

March 24, 2011

Dr. Donald Berwick
Administrator
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
Department of Health and Human Services
P.O. Box 8010
Baltimore, MD 21244-08010

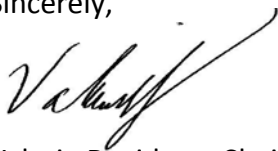
Subject: Request for Meetings with Appropriate CMS Staff regarding 1) Determination of Required Patient Volume for Meaningful Use Incentives and 2) Potential Changes in Medicaid Pharmacy Reimbursement

Dear Administrator Berwick:

On behalf of the Tribal Technical Advisory Group to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services ("TTAG")¹, I am writing to follow-up on our discussion at the TTAG Face-to-Face meeting on February 23rd at the National Museum of the American Indian. We appreciate your engagement with us on two issues in particular: 1) The determination of patient volume in Tribal and urban Indian health programs for purposes of "meaningful use" incentives and 2) concerns over potential changes in Medicaid policies pertaining to pharmacy reimbursement and the impact these changes could have on access to pharmacy services in Indian Country. Also, during the HHS Tribal Budget Consultation last week TTAG representatives had an opportunity to engage with Ms. Caya Lewis and Ms. Cindy Mann on these matters.

TTAG is requesting follow-up meetings with the appropriate CMS staff in order to work through these issues. Thank you greatly for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,



Valerie Davidson, Chair

cc: Caya B. Lewis, Chief of Staff, Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services
Cindy Mann, Director, Center for Medicaid, CHIP, and Survey and Certification
Kitty Marx, Director, Tribal Affairs Group, CMS

¹ TTAG advises CMS on Indian health policy issues involving Medicare, Medicaid, the Children's Health Insurance Program, and any other health care program funded (in whole or in part) by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services ("CMS"). http://www.cmsttag.org/docs/ttag_charter_final.pdf, January 28, 2011.