Health Information Management
Stage 1 Meaningful Use Core Set
Problem List

PURPOSE: The purpose of this policy is to specify Indian Health Service (IHS) policy and procedures related to Meaningful Use Problem List.

POLICY: It is IHS policy that facilities establish both policy and procedures that pertain to the Problem List in the Resource and Patient Management System Electronic Health Record (RPMS EHR).

OBJECTIVE: Maintain an up-to-date problem list of current and active diagnoses.

MEASURE: More than 80% of all unique patients seen by the eligible provider (EP) or admitted to the eligible hospital's (EH) or Critical Access Hospital's (CAH) inpatient or emergency department (POS 21 or 23*) have at least one entry or an indication that no problems are known for the patient recorded as structured data.

DEFINITIONS:

>**Unique Patient**: If a patient is admitted to an EH's or CAH's inpatient or emergency department (POS 21 or 23) or seen by an EP more than once during the EHR reporting period, then for purposes of measurement that patient is only counted once in the denominator for the measure. All the measures relying on the term ''unique patient'' relate to what is contained in the patient's medical record. Not all of this information will need to be updated or even be needed by the provider at every patient encounter. This is especially true for patients whose encounter frequency is such that they would see the same provider multiple times in the same EHR reporting period.

PROCEDURES: The following procedures shall be followed by the Health Information Management professional:

1. Educate the provider that they are responsible for the management of a current and accurate Problem List for each patient.

2. Ensure that at least one entry of a problem or an indication that "No Active Problems" exist for each patient.

3. A facility specific policy should be in place to notify clinical staff of maintenance of a current and accurate Problem List.

4. Generate a list of problems/diagnoses not coded (.9999) in Patient Care Component (PCC) MGR→DEU→SUP→ICD→PRB.

5. A list of No Active Problems can be generated from VGen. See Appendix A.

6. Problems not coded must be coded according to the Provider Narrative and other documentation in the EHR such as the Note.

*POS (Place of Service) Codes:

- **21 – Inpatient hospital**: A facility, other than psychiatric, which primarily provides diagnostic, therapeutic (both surgical and nonsurgical), and rehabilitation services by, or under, the supervision of physicians to patients admitted for a variety of medical conditions.

- **23 – Emergency room-hospital**: A portion of a hospital where emergency diagnosis and treatment of illness or injury is provided.