

NOTICE TO PURCHASED/REFERRED CARE PROVIDERS CONCERNING ALL PATIENTS BEING
REFERRED BY THE INDIAN HEALTH SERVICE

A patient may be referred by an authorizing official of the Indian Health Service (IHS) when the medical care required cannot be provided at the IHS facility. The referral is not an implication that the IHS will authorize payment for the cost of the care to be provided. The IHS will assume financial responsibility for referrals if the patient is eligible within a Purchased Referred Care Delivery Area under the Purchased/Referred Care (PRC) regulations and is not eligible for or does not have an alternate resource. Patients who are ineligible under the PRC regulations will be financially responsible for the medical costs incurred for a referral made by the IHS.

The basic criterion for determination of an Indian person's eligibility for the PRC program is contained in the PRC regulations 42 Code of Federal Regulations. An Indian person is deemed eligible for PRC when his/she resides on a Federally-recognized Indian reservation or resides near the reservation of which he/she is a member or is determined to have close social and economic ties with the Tribes located on the reservation.

Further clarification and/or additional information concerning PRC may be obtained from the Chief Executive Officer and/or the Supervisory Health Systems Specialist, PRC.