



MAY 15 2019

Dear Tribal Leader:

I am writing to inform you of the result of Tribal Consultation on the Indian Health Manual (IHM), Part 2 – “*Services to Indians and Others*, Chapter 3 – *Purchased/Referred Care*” (PRC). I am happy to report that I signed the updated IHM PRC Chapter on February 28. The enclosure provides a summary of all comments received.

By letter dated May 18, 2018, I initiated Tribal Consultation on the *PRC Chapter Update*. At the request of Tribes, I extended the comment period through August 6, 2018, to provide additional time for comments.

On October 16-17, 2018, the Indian Health Service (IHS) Director’s Workgroup on Improving PRC met in Seattle, Washington, to review comments, formulate recommendations, and provide consensus of proposed changes based on your Tribal Consultation input and comments. During the meeting, the IHS provided an overview of the Tribal Consultation process, including a side-by-side comparison of the *Purchased/Referred Care Chapter* before and after comments.

The IHS received 111 comments at the following Tribal Consultation venues on the *PRC Chapter Update*:

- Accepted comments by e-mail and postal mail from May 18, 2018 – August 6, 2018;
- Two All Tribes Conference Calls;
 - May 25, 2018, 1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. (ET)
 - June 11, 2018, 1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. (ET)
- A call with the Director’s Workgroup on Improving PRC; and
 - June 5, 2018, 1:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. (ET)
- Four in-person Tribal Consultation sessions.
 - May 23, 2018, 5:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. (CT), Prior Lake, Minnesota
 - June 14, 2018, 1:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. (MT), Phoenix, Arizona
 - June 28, 2018, 1:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. (CT), Minneapolis, Minnesota
 - June 29, 2018, 1:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. (PT), Seattle, Washington

The IHS Office of Resource Access and Partnership (ORAP) will provide a training session on the *PRC Chapter* during the 2019 Partnership Meeting on June 11-13, 2019, in Spokane, Washington. If you have any questions, please contact CDR John Rael, Director, ORAP, IHS, by e-mail at john.rael@ihs.gov or by telephone at (301) 443-2694. Thank you for your support and partnership.

Sincerely,

/Michael D. Weahkee/

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Principal Deputy Director

Enclosure: *Summary of Changes to the PRC Chapter After Tribal Consultation*