



Michelle Lujan Grisham, Governor
David R. Scrase, M.D., Secretary
Nicole Comeaux, J.D., M.P.H., Director

February 25, 2022

RE: Tribal Notification to Request Advice and Comments Letter 22-08: Nursing Facility (NF) Ventilator Services

Dear Tribal Leadership, Indian Health Service, Tribal Health Providers, and Other Interested Parties:

Seeking advice and comments from New Mexico's Indian Nations, Tribes, Pueblos and their health care providers is an important component of the government-to-government relationship with the State of New Mexico. In accordance with the New Mexico Human Services Department's (HSD's) Tribal Notification to Request Advice and Comments process, this letter is to inform you that HSD, through the Medical Assistance Division (MAD), is accepting comments until **5:00 p.m. Mountain Time (MT) March 28, 2022**, regarding nursing facility (NF) ventilator services.

Effective March 14, 2022, the New Mexico Human Services Department (HSD) is proposing to implement an add-on rate for NF ventilator services. Currently, Medicaid recipients requiring NF ventilator services must be sent out of state to a skilled nursing facility (SNF), nursing facility or long-term acute hospital (LTAC).

The proposed change will enable eligible Medicaid recipients to remain in New Mexico, reduce the burden on families that are traveling out of state, allow for better coordination of the member's care and keep Medicaid money in New Mexico.

Tribal Impact

The Human Services Department anticipates positive impact with this change. Eligible Medicaid recipients will be able to remain in New Mexico to receive NF ventilator services; families will not have to travel out of state; there will be better coordination of members' care; and Medicaid dollars will remain in New Mexico.

Tribal Advice and Comments

Tribes and their healthcare providers may view the proposed changes, on the HSD webpage at: <https://www.hsd.state.nm.us/providers/written-tribal-consultations/> **Tribal Notification 22-08**.

Important Dates

Written comments must be submitted by 5:00 p.m. Mountain Time (MT) March 28, 2022. Please send your comments to the MAD Native American Liaison, **Theresa Belanger**, at (505) 670-8067 or by email at: Theresa.Belanger@state.nm.us. All written comments received will be posted on the HSD website at: <https://www.hsd.state.nm.us/providers/written-tribal-consultations/> along with this notification letter. The public posting will include the name and any contact information provided by the commenter.

Tribal Leadership may request a government-to-government consultation by March 28, 2022.
This request may be made to: Theresa.Belanger@state.nm.us or by calling (505) 670-8067.

Sincerely,



Nicole Comeaux, J.D., M.P.H.
State Medicaid Director