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Q1: When will AHCCCS begin reimbursing for traditional healing?

A1: The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) have approved AHCCCS' request to cover traditional healing services, and the next step is to receive state legislative authority to cover the new benefit. Once AHCCCS receives legislative approval, the agency will establish a timeline for implementation and notify the public of the effective date.

Q2: Who can provide AHCCCS reimbursable traditional healing services?

A2: Upon the effective date of the benefit (following legislative approval), AHCCCS will reimburse for services provided by traditional healers who are employed by or contracted with an IHS/638 facility. Additionally, traditional healers employed by or contracted with an Urban Indian Organization may provide reimbursable services through a care coordination agreement with an IHS/638 facility.

Q3: Who can receive traditional healing services?

A3: AHCCCS members who are eligible to receive services through an IHS/638 facility are eligible to receive the traditional healing benefit.

Q4: What traditional healing services will be eligible for reimbursement?

A4: Each IHS/638 facility, in partnership with their local Tribal community, will individually define which services are most appropriate for Medicaid reimbursement. These services might include ceremonial consultation, traditional counseling, sweat lodge services or a variety of other traditional healing services identified by the IHS/638 facility in partnership with their local Tribal community.

Q5: Do I need to be on the American Indian Health Program to receive traditional healing services?

A5: No, traditional healing services will be available to eligible members enrolled in any AHCCCS health plan.

Q6: Where can I send questions I have regarding AHCCCS traditional healing services?

A6: Additional questions can be sent to waiverpublicinput@azahcccs.gov.