

Notice to Medical Providers

Harold “Buddy” Brown, Esq., President, Tanana Chiefs Conference (TCC) advised Alaska Interior Providers that the TCC management had adopted procedural changes pertinent to TCC payment for medical services. For dates of service on or subsequent to February 9, 2004, medical specialty providers will be compensated for specified care at the lesser of the billed charge, an agreed upon rate, or the TCC Contract Health Services (CHS) maximum allowable payment schedule. A Purchase Order authorizing funding for a referred patient will indicate the maximum allowable fee for the service requested.

The CHS fee maximums were established for CY 2004 with goals to:

- provide competitive fee-for-service reimbursement to physicians in the Fairbanks North Star Borough;
- increase Medicare physician compensation rates using multiple conversion factors;
- to assure a reasonable and fair rate of compensation;
- provide cost predictability;
- provide medical specialty services locally that are needed by CAIHC patients;
- eliminate specialty differentials in payment for the same service; and
- determine from independent practitioner claims submitted to Contract Health Services what the median conversion factors are for medicine, surgery, radiology, and pathology in the Alaska Interior service area.

Questions regarding the 2004 maximum allowable fees and its implementation should be directed to Gary B. Schwartz, MPH:

Address: Chief Andrew Isaac Health Center
1408 19th Avenue
Fairbanks, Alaska 99701

or

Telephone: 451-6682, Extension 3608.