



STATE OF OKLAHOMA
OKLAHOMA HEALTH CARE AUTHORITY

I/T/U Public Notice 2010-05

July 15, 2010

Re: I/T/U Co-Pay Clarification

Dear Tribal Representative,

The Oklahoma Health Care Authority would like to clarify I/T/U Public Notice 2009-07, dated January 5, 2010, regarding cost-sharing requirements for SoonerCare members. That letter described several cost-sharing measures implemented for SoonerCare members due to state budget cuts, but needed to clarify some Native American exemptions from cost-sharing.

Under the previous guidelines, some SoonerCare members were required to pay co-pays ranging from \$0.00 for generics up to \$3.00 for their non-generic prescription drugs. Additionally, co-pays were implemented for inpatient hospital stays (\$10 per day with a maximum total of \$90) and office and home visits (\$3 per visit).

OHCA has changed the pharmacy co-pay amounts to better align our co-pay requirements with federal guidelines and standards. With the new co-pay changes, non-pregnant adult SoonerCare members will still have no co-pay for preferred generics, while the co-pay amounts for other prescriptions depend on their SoonerCare allowable payment. For these prescriptions the co-pay amount is as follows, effective August 1, 2010:

- \$0.65 for prescriptions costing between \$0.00-\$10.00.
- \$1.20 for prescriptions costing between \$10.01-\$25.00.
- \$2.40 for prescriptions costing between \$25.01-\$50.00.
- \$3.50 for prescriptions costing \$50.01 or more.

The co-pay amounts for other services are unchanged.

Please note, however, that Native Americans are exempt from co-pays, including pharmacy co-pays, when they receive services at facilities of the Indian Health Service, Urban Indian facilities, or Tribal facilities which are operated under P.L. 93-638. Additionally, the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA) exempts American Indians from co-pays when they have a contract health referral. Individuals receiving hospice services are also exempted per section 1916(a)(2)(E) of the Social Security Act.

If you have any questions, please contact Trevlyn Cross, Director of SoonerCare Indian Health Unit, at 405-522-7303 or via e-mail at Trevlyn.Cross@okhca.org

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Garth L. Splinter, M.D." with a stylized flourish at the end.

Garth L. Splinter, M.D., M.B.A.
State Medicaid Director