

Patient Referred Care

Medical/dental care provided at an IHS or tribal health care facility is called Direct Care. The PRC Program is for medical/dental care provided away from an IHS or tribal health care facility. PRC is not an entitlement program and a PRC referral does not imply the care will be paid. If PRC is requested to pay, then a patient must meet the residency requirements, notification requirements, medical priority, and use of alternate resources.

PRC is the "payor of last resort" of persons defined as eligible for PRC, notwithstanding any state or local law or regulation to the contrary.

Requirements: Alternate Resources

PRC is considered the payor of last resort, and as such, the use of alternate resources is required when such resources are available and accessible to the individual. The Indian Health Care Improvement Act Amendments (P.L. 100-713) include the following explicit requirement: *Establish a procedure that will ensure no payment shall be made from the Fund to any provider of treatment to the extent that such provider is eligible to receive payment for the treatment from any other Federal, State, local, or private source of reimbursement for which the patient is eligible.*

An individual must apply for and use all alternate resources that are available and accessible, such as:

- State Medicaid, qualifications depends on income.
- Medicare A and B, qualifications are age 65 or disability.
- Private insurance, thru work, VA, private pay.
- IHS or Tribal health facilities, utilize our medical and dental clinics.
 - **42CFR136.61 Subpart G** (c) Alternate resources means health care resources other than those of the Indian Health Service. Such resources include health care providers and institutions, and health care programs for the payment of health services including but not limited to programs under titles XVIII or XIX of the Social Security Act (i.e., Medicare, Medicaid), State or local health care programs, and private insurance. [64 FR 58322, Oct. 28, 1999]

The GTB Health Clinic facility is also considered a resource, and therefore, PRC funds may not be expended for services reasonably accessible and available at IHS facilities. When an IHS facility capable of providing these services is within ninety minutes (90)

minutes one-way surface transportation time from the person's place of residence to the nearest IHS facility.

You are required by Patient Referred Care to Apply for Medicaid and provide an approval or valid denial. If you need assistance in applying for alternate resources please see or contact Angelina Raphael at (231) 534-7731. Angelina is located in room 221 within the clinic. The Grand Traverse Band has a community partnership agreement with the state of Michigan to help individuals and families apply for Medicaid. Please utilize these resource offered to you.