

EFFECTIVE NOVEMBER 1, 2008

TO: HEALTH PROGRAM - NON-NATIVE SPOUSES
FROM: SAULT TRIBAL HEALTH PROGRAM
SUBJECT: NOTICE OF CHANGES FOR NON-NATIVE SPOUSES

Due to the rising cost of health care and our Tribe's current financial situation the Sault Tribal Health Program can no longer afford to provide services to all eligibility groups outlined in our benefit policy. Eligibility groups in which the Sault Tribe covers the primary cost to provide services were identified by Health Administration and the Health Committee. A recommended change to collect the full health service costs from non-native spouses and their insurance was approved by the Tribal Board of Directors to be effective November 1, 2008.

Non-native spouse of Sault Tribe members continue to be eligible for health services as the Tribe's commitment to the health of our families. However, the services for non-native spouses of Sault Tribe members will be billed for the full cost of care received from the Sault Tribal Health Program.

The following changes are made to the collection of fees associated with Non-Native Spouse of Sault Tribe Member:

Non-Native Spouse of Sault Tribe Member with No Insurance:

"The full amount will be billed to the patient for services received".

Non-Native Spouse of Sault Tribe Member with Insurance:

"Services will be billed to the patients insurance. Patient will be responsible for all remaining balances, co-pays and deductibles".

Non-Native spouses can be eligible for services in another category listed in the current benefit policy. In this case, the least costly option to the patient will be utilized in determining patient eligibility.

We appreciate your understanding and consideration in helping us continue to provide high quality health services to our patients while maintaining financially viable health services.

**Sault Tribal Health Program
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