



CONTRACT HEALTH SERVICES

IMPORTANT NOTICE

The Ponca Tribe of Nebraska has a binding master contract with the Indian Health Service to manage the health services for the Native Americans. Included in the master contract is the Contract Health Services (CHS) program, in which those services are designated solely for the Ponca members. The program standard that governs the Contract Health Services activities is the CHS Indian Health Manual.

Now that we have a full time Medical Director on board, we are reviewing our policies and procedures to ensure we are in compliance with the regulations that govern our activities in Contract Health. The CHS Indian Health Manual requires that we remain in compliance in ensuring that all Emergency Services are of an emergency nature.

EFFECTIVE MAY 23, 2011

The Chief Medical Director will be reviewing the emergency room report from the various hospitals to determine if the visit is a true emergency. **If it's determined the emergency room visit is NOT a true emergency than we are not allowed to pay for the visit and the patient will be held responsible for all charges incurred.**

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the Contract Health Service program at (402) 371-8834 or toll free at (800) 405-0365.



The definition for an ER Visit extracted from the Indian Health Manual is as follows:

Diagnostic or therapeutic services that are necessary to prevent the immediate death or serious impairment of the health of the individual, and which, because of the threat to the life or health of the individual, necessitate the use of the most accessible health care available and capable of furnishing such services. Diagnosis and treatment of injuries or medical conditions that, if left untreated, would result in uncertain but potentially grave outcomes.