

## “PRC” Referral

### WHAT IS A “PRC” REFERRAL?

An authorization for medical care by appropriate ordering officials in accordance with 42 CFR Part 136 Subpart –

“PRC” Definitions’ – See also 42 CFR §136.21

#### *Purchase Referred Care:*

The PRC Program is for medical and 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.



### IMPORTANT: KNOW YOUR RIGHTS:

**DO NOT:** Bypass your “PRC” Purchase Referred Care program.

**DO NOT:** Schedule your own medical referral. This step could cause a denial, a loss of valuable time, being charged, and paying for an expensive medical service.

### HOW CAN YOU HELP?

Once your referral is started, please help the “PRC” department by following these steps and preventing delays.

1. Is your “Demographic” information for eligibility up-to-date?  
*If not*, please visit the “Registration” or “PRC” department and update your information. [42 C.F.R. §136.12, §136.23(e), §136.24, or if applicable 25 U.S.C. §1646].
2. Do you have “Alternate Resources” other than I.H.S.? Which resembles the following:
  - i. Private Insurance;
  - ii. Medicare;
  - iii. Medicaid;
  - iv. Denali Kidcare;
  - v. Veterans Affairs;
  - vi. Workman's Compensation, etc.

*If so*, present your Insurance Cards to the “PRC” Department.

3. *If not*, please meet with the “PRC” department and fill out their “Alternate Resource” applications, or your referral will be denied. [42 C.F.R. § 136.61]
4. Do you meet the “Residency” Requirements for “PRC” **180-days (6 months)** and a minimum of **30-days** in the Interior Alaska Service Unit (IASU) with the intent to stay and not have moved to the (IASU) because of a pre-existing medical reason. (TCC patient Handbook, Pg. 21-22)
5. Are you a “Full-time” College Student - registered with the “PRC” department for each designated semester? [180-day rule]

## **Are you a Native American Adopted by Non-AI/AN Parent?**

1. Native American adopted by non-AI/AN parents must meet all “PRC” requirements to be eligible for care.

## **Do you have a “Foster Child” eligible for “PRC?”**

1. AI/AN child placed in foster care by order of a court of competent jurisdiction and who were eligible for PRC at the time of the court order shall continue to be eligible for PRC while in foster care. The **IHCIA, 25 U.S.C. § 1680c(a)**, states in part:
2. "(a)(1) Any individual who– (1) has not attained 19 years of age, (2) is the natural or adopted child, stepchild, foster child, legal ward, or orphan of an eligible Indian, and (3) is not otherwise eligible for the health services provided by the Service, shall be eligible for all health services provided by the Service on the same basis and subject to the same rules that apply to eligible Indians until such individual attains 19 years of age. Suppose such an individual has been determined to be legally incompetent before reaching 19 years of age; in that case, such an individual shall remain eligible for services until 1-year after the date of a determination of competency" (**emphasis added**).

## **Are you a Non-Native Woman Pregnant with an Eligible Child?**

1. Non-Native women pregnant with the child of an eligible patient are eligible for direct and Purchased/Referred Care for prenatal care, delivery, and up to six weeks of post-partum care. Adopted, step, or foster children who are dependents of an eligible Native parent or guardian may receive direct and contract health services until the age of 19.
2. If unmarried, the non-AI/AN pregnant woman is eligible for PRC if the eligible AI/AN male states in writing that he is the father of the unborn child or a court of competent jurisdiction order determine such. This will ensure health services to the unborn AI/AN child.

## **Are you a Non-Native of an Eligible Household Member?**

1. A non-AI/AN member of an eligible AI/AN's household who resides within a PRCDA is eligible for PRC if the medical officer in charge determines that services are necessary to prevent the spread of a communicable disease or otherwise deal with a public health hazard, and/or provide care to immediate family members of an eligible individual if such care is directly related to the treatment of the eligible individual.

## **IN CLOSING:**

The importance of this document is to present to you, *“our” tribal members*, what precisely a “PRC” Referral is, and how the Purchased/Referred program can help you. If you are unsure, please call before you attempt to obtain services and verify if all requirements have been met. Dot Lake Village and TCCs “PRC” program can help you secure a referral through its guiding principles, so Purchased/Referred Care will pay for the service. Please don't wait until it's too late.

TCC Fairbanks call: 1-451-6682, ext. 3613

TCC In-state toll-free: 1-800-478-6682, ext. 3613

TCC Out-of-state toll-free: 1-800-770-8251, ext. 3613

Dot Lake Village “Patient Advocate:” \_\_\_\_\_