



September 28, 2017

TO: All Licensed Alaska Health Maintenance Organizations, Third Party Administrators (“TPAs”), Registered Administrative Services Providers with Respect to Health Insurance, Insurance Companies, and Health Service Corporations (together “Assessable Entities”)

RE: 2018 Alaska Vaccine Assessment Program (AVAP) Child and Adult Rates

During its September 21st annual rate-setting meeting, the Alaska Vaccine Assessment Program's Council voted to recommend the child and adult assessment rates to the Department of Health and Social Services (DHSS). After a robust discussion regarding the proper fiscal control points, vaccine account reserves, and whether to include reported TRICARE beneficiaries in the total population, the Council unanimously agreed that the recommended child rate for 2018 should be \$8.61 and the adult rate should be 88 cents. The Council noted the importance of keeping costs as stable as possible to provide assessable entities with predictability in programmatic costs. While the child vaccine assessment rate (per member, per month) has decreased by a penny, the adult assessment rate (per member, per month) has increased by 28 cents due primarily to an increase in immunization rates, especially with regard to high-dollar vaccines like Gardasil. In order to reduce the financial impact of the adult rate increase, the Council agreed to reduce the reserve amount from 35% to 30%. Additionally, the Council determined that TRICARE's population should be included in the total AK assessment population given its commitment to pay into state vaccine programs on a continuing basis, beginning in 2018. A copy of the assessment workbook can be found on www.akvaccine.org.

Thank you for your continued support of Alaska's universal vaccine purchase program.

Sincerely,

Julia Walter Zell, MA, Esq.
CEO, Northwest Region