

**Arizona Department of Health Services
Division of Behavioral Health Services
PROVIDER MANUAL
White Mountain Apache Tribal Regional Behavioral Health Authority**

SECTION 10.3 Coordination with IHS and Notification Requirements

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10.3.1 Introduction

As a provider under the IHS “638” contract and the Intergovernmental Agreement with ADHS White Mountain Apache TRBHA has slightly different requirements than the RBHAs. There are specific protocols outlined throughout the ADHS/WMATRPHA Provider Manual to inform providers how to adhere to these protocols.

10.3.2 References

[Form 10.3 TRBHA Admission Contact Form](#)
[Section 3.14 Securing Prior Authorization](#)
[ADHS/Tribal Intergovernmental Agreements](#)

10.3.3 Scope

All person’s receiving behavioral health services with White Mountain Apache Tribal RBHA and its provider network. Person’s who are registered members of a Federally Recognized Tribe requesting services at Indian Health Services (IHS) and persons enrolled in an AHCCCS IHS Health Plan.

10.3.4 Did you know?

Tribal Regional Behavioral Health Authorities have different funding formulas than the RBHA’s under AHCCCS due to providing Mental Health and/or Substance Abuse Services as “638” IHS Contracted Providers.

The Memorandum of Agreement between HCFA and IHS implemented a change in payment policy for Medicaid services provided on or after July 11, 1996 to Native American Medicaid members by tribally owned/operated health care facilities.

- Title I or III of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act , Public Law 93-638
- State Medicaid agencies may claim 100% federal Medicaid funds to reimburse tribal “638” providers

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- Tribal '638 providers may:
 1. Operate as any other provider type recognized under the State Plan and receive that respective rate (TRBHA), and/or
 2. Choose to be designated as an IHS provider, and receive the IHS payment for services directly from AHCCCS.
 - Behavioral Health Providers contracted with TRBHA's must bill AHCCCS directly as a Fee For Service Providers.
 - As an IHS "638" contacted facilities, WMATRBHA contracts with IHS to provide Mental Health Services, such as providing psychological assessments in the IHS ER, and providing administrative services for the IHS psychiatrist
- Tribal Regional Behavioral Health Authorities must receive prior authorization directly from Arizona Department of Health Services/Division of Behavioral Health Services/Bureau of Quality Management Operations for certain behavioral health services, (see [Section 3.14 Securing Prior Authorization](#)).

10.3.5 Definitions

["638" IHS Contracted Providers](#)

[Prior Authorization](#)

[Contract Health](#)

10.3.6 Objectives

To provide an overview of Tribal Behavioral Health Authority's unique structure and operations.

10.3.7 Procedures

10.3.7-a Crisis Placements

A person in crisis is seen in Whiteriver IHS ER, the MD calls the WMATRBHA Clinician on-call to provide a psychological crisis assessment. The MD reviews the assessment and determines the client needs to be admitted to a Level I facility. The on-call clinician provides [PM Form 3.14.1 Certificate of Need](#) (CON) for the MD to complete. The on-call clinician submits the crisis assessment to the WMATRBHA Administrative Office and a referral is made to the Intake Specialist. Once the intake is completed the person is enrolled in WMATRBHA.

When a person in crisis and is seen in Whiteriver IHS ER, and the MD determines the person needs to go to a Level 1 facility without a psychological crisis assessment, WMATRBHA may be unaware the person has been placed. The placement facility must contact WMATRBHA upon admission so the process for intake can begin. If the facility does not contact WMATRBHA prior to the IHS 72 hour authorization end point, WMATRBHA may not be able to provide authorization for continued care.

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Due to placements made by Whiteriver IHS without WMATRBHA contact, [Form 10.3 TRBHA Admission Contact Form](#) has been developed. This form is to be completed by the admissions clerk at time of placement and faxed to WMATRBHA at (928) 338-4930 within the first 24 hours and no later than 72 hours after placement. This will ensure the person will not face a gap in services and the placement facility will not have a gap in payment. Level 1 providers need to fax this form every time a White Mountain Apache Member is admitted to their facility to assure authorization for services.

10.3.7-b Prior Notification Requirements

Providers who fail to contact WMATRBHA within the first 72 hours of the person's admit date, may be fiscally responsible for services provided prior to the date of contact with WMATRBHA and may be fiscally responsible for sanctions imposed by ADHS.

WMATRBHA must submit [Form 3.14.3 TRBHA Prior Authorization Request](#), within the first 24 hours of a crisis placement or, if on a weekend or holiday, by the next business day, to DBHS Bureau of Quality Management Operations to be in compliance with the ADHS/WMATRBHA Intergovernmental Agreement. Sanctions can be imposed by ADHS/DBHS for failure to submit prior authorization requests in compliance with ADHS Provider Manual [Section 3.14 Securing Prior Authorization](#). In the occurrence of Sanctions being imposed on WMATRBHA for late submission of [Form 3.14.3 TRBHA Prior Authorization Request](#), due to the provider contacting WMATRBHA later than the first 72 hours after admission, sanctions will be passed on to the provider.

10.3.7-c Contact with Whiteriver IHS

Providers are encouraged to coordinate with the Whiteriver IHS Discharge Planner at (928) 338-3571 Fax: (928) 338-1122 in addition to informing WMATRBHA to assure discharge planning begins at admission, and/or if the client is to be discharged within the IHS 72 hour authorization.

In the event the person does not qualify for AHCCCS the provider will need to coordinate with the IHS Discharge Planner to receive additional days of authorization through IHS Contract Health.

Providers may contact WMATRBHA Out of Home Coordinator's or the Network Provider Manager at (928) 338-4811 for additional information.