Dr. Marilynn Malerba  
Chief, Mohegan Tribe  
Tribal Self-Governance Advisory Committee  
c/o Self-Governance Communication & Education  
1133 20th Street NW, Suite 220  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chief Malerba:

The enclosed provides my follow-up to your inquiry about Agency-specific Quality Reporting Measures on behalf of the Indian Health Service (IHS) Tribal Self-Governance Advisory Committee (TSGAC). The IHS is committed to implementing appropriate clinical measures that improve the health of the American Indian and Alaska Native population.

By letter dated August 4, 2015, the TSGAC requested that the IHS conduct a comparative analysis of the Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA), the modified GPRA Modernization Act (GPRAMA) measures, and the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) clinical quality management approaches. Mr. McSwain’s October 5, 2015-dated response acknowledges the TSGAC’s request and indicates a written report would be developed for TSGAC review and discussion. Please find enclosed, an analysis prepared for TSGAC review and discussion.

Our analysis provides an overview of Agency reporting on GPRA/GPRAMA requirements and CMS national quality initiatives, as well as a preliminary discussion on changes to Medicare and the future of IHS performance reporting. For your convenience, we include a brief introduction of the IHS Integrated Data Collection System Data Mart (IDCS DM) and the Medicare Access and Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP) Reauthorization Act of 2015 (MACRA), Public Law 114-10.

The IHS has established appropriate CMS contacts to request assistance, education, and resources as it pertains to MACRA. As we learn more following CMS rulemaking and public comment, we look forward to additional discussions with the TSGAC about potential impacts and concerns across our health care system. In the interim, the IHS will continue to develop the IDCS DM and explore opportunities for Tribal and Urban program input.
I appreciate your partnership in working to improve the IHS and offer any MACRA or GPRA technical assistance you may require. If you have any questions regarding the analysis, please contact CAPT Francis Frazier, Acting Director, Office of Public Health Support, by telephone at (301) 443-0222, or by e-mail at francis.frazier@ihs.gov.

Sincerely yours,

Susan V. Karol, M.D.
Chief Medical Officer

Enclosure