



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services

Region IX

Division of Medicaid & Children's Health Operations

90 Seventh Street, Suite 5-300 (5W)

San Francisco, CA 94103-6706

FEB 10 2011

Antere'a Puleasi
Medicaid Program Director
L.B.J. Tropical Medical Center
Pago Pago, American Samoa 96799

Dear Mr. Puleasi:

I am writing to inform you that American Samoa's State Plan Amendment (SPA) 10-001, requesting an exception from the Medicaid Recovery Audit Contractor (RAC) Program, has been approved effective January 1st, 2011.

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services reviewed the SPA submission, and determined that the reasons cited by American Samoa, including the public nature of the health care system and the fact that Medicaid funds are received in the form of a capped annual block grant, created appropriate grounds for the exception.

As a result of this decision, American Samoa will not be obligated to take part in the Medicaid RAC Program. If you have any questions, please contact Tom Schenck at (415) 744-3589, or tom.schenck@cms.hhs.gov.

Sincerely,

Gloria Nagle, Ph.D., MPA

Associate Regional Administrator

Division of Medicaid & Children's Health Operations

cc: Mary Rydell, CMS Pacific Area Representative