

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES  
OFFICE OF DIRECTOR

ACTION REFERRAL

|                    |                        |
|--------------------|------------------------|
| TO<br><i>Supra</i> | DATE<br><i>4-19-12</i> |
|--------------------|------------------------|

| DIRECTOR'S USE ONLY   | ACTION REQUESTED   |
|---|--|
| 1. LOG NUMBER<br><i>000402</i>  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Prepare reply for the Director's signature<br>DATE DUE <i>4-30-12</i>  |
| 2. DATE SIGNED BY DIRECTOR<br><i>cc: Mr. Keck, Singleton, Hart</i><br><i>Cleared 5/1/12, letter attached.</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> Prepare reply for appropriate signature<br>DATE DUE _____<br><input type="checkbox"/> FOIA<br>DATE DUE _____<br><input type="checkbox"/> Necessary Action |

| APPROVALS<br>(Only when prepared for director's signature) | APPROVE | * DISAPPROVE<br>(Note reason for disapproval and return to preparer.) | COMMENT |
|--|---------|---|---------|
| 1.   |         |   |         |
| 2.   |         |   |         |
| 3.   |         |   |         |
| 4.   |         |   |         |

DAVID L. THOMAS  
SENATOR, GREENVILLE COUNTY  
SENATORIAL DISTRICT NO. 8

GREENVILLE ADDRESS:  
23 WADE HAMPTON BLVD  
GREENVILLE, SC 29609  
(864) 271-6371

SENATE ADDRESS  
SUITE 410 GRESSETTE BUILDING  
P.O. BOX 142  
COLUMBIA, SC 29202  
(803) 212-6240



COMMITTEES:  
BANKING AND INSURANCE, CHAIRMAN  
CORRECTIONS AND PENOLOGY  
FINANCE  
MEDICAL AFFAIRS

April 16, 2012

**RECEIVED**

APR 17 2012

Department of Health & Human Services  
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

Mr. Tony Keck  
Director  
Department of Health and Human Services  
1801 Main Street  
PO Box 8206  
Columbia, SC 29202  
[keck@scdhhs.gov](mailto:keck@scdhhs.gov)

Dear Director Keck,

I have had a communication from someone who is involved in the health information management here in SC. They want the passage of federal regulations here in South Carolina that would take the ICD-9 to the ICD-10 level. I must say she is speaking "Greek" to me. I have never heard of this and would appreciate you giving me your perspective in this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "David L. Thomas".

David L. Thomas



May 1, 2012

Senator David Thomas  
The Senate of South Carolina  
Suite 410 Gressette Building  
PO Box 142  
Columbia, South Carolina 29202

Dear Senator Thomas:

Thank you for your inquiry regarding the International Classification of Diseases, Tenth Revision (ICD-10). The timeline for implementation of a specific ICD version for the United States is determined by the U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services (HHS). At this time, the transition to ICD-10 in the U.S. is planned for October 1, 2013. Additional information about the ICD system and work already underway in South Carolina is included below.

ICD-10 is a medical classification list for the coding of diagnoses and inpatient hospital procedures. The ICD-10 code set allows more than 14,000 different codes and permits the tracking of many new diagnoses. On January 15, 2009, HHS published the final regulation that adopted ICD-10 to replace the current medical classification, ICD-9. All health plans, clearinghouses, and health care providers using electronic transactions must transition to the ICD-10 code sets on the compliance date of October 1, 2013.

The South Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (SCDHHS) strategy for attaining ICD-10 compliance includes evaluating existing policies, processes and the Medicaid Management Information System (MMIS). SCDHHS is on schedule to implement a solution that processes ICD-10 codes on October 1, 2013.

On April 17, 2012, HHS Secretary Kathleen Sebelius announced a proposed rule that would delay the compliance date for ICD-10 from October 1, 2013 to October 1, 2014. The proposed rule has been posted to the Federal Register, which marks the beginning of a 30-day comment period. All comments are due to HHS no later than May 17, 2012.

SCDHHS will continue its process of transitioning to ICD-10 by the current compliance date until a final rule comes from HHS stating otherwise. Important information related to SCDHHS ICD-10 implementation including project status, pertinent ICD-10 links, as well as other relevant information to assist with this transition can be found at:

<http://www2.scdhhs.gov/icd-10>

I hope this information is clear and helpful. If you have any further questions please contact Rhonda Morrison, Program Director, Project Management Office at (803) 898-2999.

Sincerely,



Anthony E. Keck  
Director