

**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
OFFICE OF DIRECTOR**

ACTION REFERRAL

TO <i>Grise</i>	DATE <i>6-13-11</i>
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DIRECTOR'S USE ONLY	ACTION REQUESTED
1. LOG NUMBER <i>101561</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Prepare reply for the Director's signature DATE DUE _____
2. DATE SIGNED BY DIRECTOR <i>cc: Mr. Speck</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Prepare reply for appropriate signature DATE DUE _____
	<input type="checkbox"/> FOIA DATE DUE _____
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Necessary Action

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



June 10, 2011

RECEIVED

JUN 13 2011

Tony Keck
SCDHHS Director
Bureau of Reimbursement Methodology and Policy
1813 Main Street,
Columbia, SC 29201-2409

Department of Health & Human Services
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

Dear Mr. Keck,

Please accept this letter as a formal request to reconsider sections of the proposed Medicaid reductions involving private rehabilitation services (PT, OT, SLP) made public on Monday, June 6, 2011. The direction of our state economy is very important to all providers, therefore, reductions deemed necessary to ensure programs are fully functional during such times is understanding. You indicated Medicaid's goal is to preserve quality of care and access to the state's poor, elderly and disabled residents while reducing excessive costs made to the program. SCDHHS included a strategy other than rate reductions as stated "to provide more opportunities for services in homes and communities, then in more expensive institutes". As a provider of rehab services for children with disabilities, our goals and strategy's are identical.

On April 8, 2011 a visit limitation was set, which primarily affected more severe patients in need and a 3% reduction was made with little to no warning to providers. Another 7% reduction is expected July 8, 2011 making a total of 10% to primarily small businesses. The question has to be asked, "How did these services make the top percent to be reduce"? For the therapist providing access to quality care with patients in the home and community could be drastically comprised. Therapists spend additional time and money with their patients that cannot be reimbursed and if this percent were to be implemented this could decrease to the number of available providers. The rising cost of living and drastic reductions made by insurance companies make it difficult, as a small business to sustain therapists from working for the more expensive institutions, which is exactly what SCDHHS, wants to decrease.

In closing, our therapist and families are very concerned with the proposed 7% reduction to private rehabilitation services, as it could prevent children of our state, access to the life changing health care needed. The entirety of this reduction should be reconsidered and deemed fair and reasonable to any other reductions made.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Paul Morlan".

Paul Morlan
Health Care Administrator

Pediatric Therapy of Aiken
6140 Woodside Executive Ct.
Aiken, SC 29841

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OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

SCDHHS
Attn: Anthony E. Keck
1813 Main Street
Columbia, SC 29201-2409



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