

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
OFFICE OF DIRECTOR

ACTION REFERRAL

TO	DATE
Myers/Giese	9-14-07

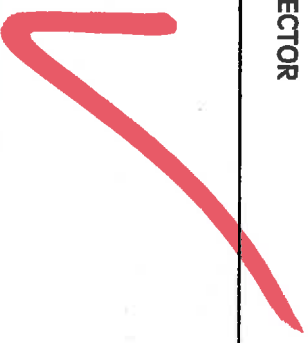
DIRECTOR'S USE ONLY		ACTION REQUESTED	
1. LOG NUMBER	000154	<input type="checkbox"/> Prepare reply for the Director's signature DATE DUE _____	
2. DATE SIGNED BY DIRECTOR	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Prepare reply for appropriate signature DATE DUE <u>9-25-07</u> <i>Cleared on 9/24/07, letter attached.</i> <input type="checkbox"/> FOIA DATE DUE _____ <input 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.			

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
OFFICE OF DIRECTOR

ACTION REFERRAL

TO <i>Myers/Assen</i>	DATE <i>9-14-07</i>
--------------------------	------------------------

DIRECTOR'S USE ONLY	ACTION REQUESTED
1. LOG NUMBER 000154	<input type="checkbox"/> Prepare reply for the Director's signature DATE DUE _____
2. DATE SIGNED BY DIRECTOR 	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Prepare reply for appropriate signature DATE DUE <i>9-25-07</i>
	<input type="checkbox"/> FOIA DATE DUE _____
	<input 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.			

9301 Medical Plaza Drive
North Charleston, SC 29406-9103
Phone: (843) 553-7121
Voice/fax line: (843) 553-5800
E-mail: medplazapharm@junco.com

MEDICAL PLAZA PHARMACY

RECEIVED

Office of Fiscal Management
& Information Systems
D-11-15

RECEIVED
SEP 14 2007

September 12, 2007

William Wells
SC DHHS

SEP 14 2007

P. O. Box 8206
Columbia, SC 29202-8206

Department of Health & Human Services
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

Dear Sir:

Re: Your memorandum of August 30 received today

Regarding the Medicaid policy pertaining to "tamper proof prescription forms".

1. What is meant by "industry-recognized"? How shall we know if a blank meets this requirement?
2. What are "industry-related features to prevent erasure or modification of information written on the prescription by the prescriber"?
3. What are "industry-recognized features designed to prevent the use of counterfeit prescription forms"?

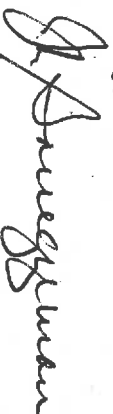
Each of the above are identified as "characteristics" that must be "industry-recognized". However there is no definition of "industry" nor of each "characteristic". Please provide a sample form that would meet your acceptance upon audit.

Please provide copy of your agency's communication to the individual beneficiaries. Please also provide guidance in what should be told to these people when they provide written orders that comply with the prescriber's requirements but not with Medicaid payment guidelines.

How should we handle such prescriptions from Georgia and North Carolina?

As you are well aware, Medicaid patients have the least of personal resources. It will be grossly unfair to penalize these people because of providers' being unable to meet the very short time table afforded for this requirement. Medical Plaza Pharmacy is the outpatient unit of a local major medical center. Many prescribers have not heard of this requirement and, thus, are not able to comply with it.

Sincerely,



J. L. Brueggeman, Pharm. D.
Director

cc: S. C. Pharmacy Association



State of South Carolina

Department of Health and Human Services

Mark Sanford
Governor

Emma Forkner
Director

September 21, 2007

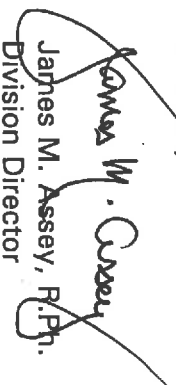
J.L. Brueggeman, Pharm.D.
Medical Plaza Pharmacy
9301 Medical Plaza Drive
North Charleston, South Carolina 29406-9103

Dear Dr. Brueggeman:

Thank you for your letter regarding the new Medicaid policy pertaining to tamper-resistant prescription forms. I also appreciate your speaking with me regarding this issue. I realize that the short timeline between notification and implementation creates its own set of problems for the provider community. As we discussed, the information contained in the August 30, 2007 Medicaid bulletin is the direct result of action by the United States Congress and the implementation of that action by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). South Carolina Medicaid must comply with CMS directives regarding tamper-resistant prescription forms. However, we have chosen the least restrictive position in this matter by requiring only one of the three tamper-resistant characteristics for the first year. Your current provider of prescription pads may prove to be an invaluable source for identifying industry-recognized standards. I have also enclosed a listing of examples of "industry standards" that may be helpful to you.

The move towards use of tamper-resistant prescription forms for non-electronic prescriptions for Medicaid outpatients will undoubtedly involve a learning process. The good faith efforts of all Medicaid-enrolled prescribers and pharmacists will be necessary to insure the flow of Medicaid reimbursable medications to the citizens we serve. Your dedication to your patients is commendable, and your continued participation in the Medicaid program is noted and appreciated. Please feel free to contact me at (803) 898-2875, if further assistance is needed.

Sincerely,


James M. Assey, R.Ph.
Division Director

JMA/s

Enclosure

#154

Examples of “industry standards” -----

Required tamper-resistant characteristics One or more industry-recognized features designed to:		Examples include but are not limited to:
1	Prevent unauthorized copying of a completed or blank prescription form	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High security watermark on reverse side of blank • Thermochromic ink, Rx disappears when rubbed or heated • VOID appears on any reproduction • Microprinted border
2	Prevent erasure or modification of information written on the prescription by the prescriber	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tamper-resistant background ink shows erasures or attempts to change written information • Erasure resistant background
3	Prevent the use of counterfeit prescription forms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sequentially numbered blanks • Duplicate or triplicate blanks • Erasure resistant background • VOID appears on any reproduction • Security features box on back of Rx alerts patient & pharmacy to security features • Microprinted border • High security watermark on reverse side of blank • Thermochromic ink, Rx disappears when rubbed or heated • Unique identifier number for each order, Physicians may report stolen pad(s) to local pharmacies