

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

ACTION REFERRAL

TO <i>Basilina Burton</i>	DATE <i>5-30-07</i>
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DIRECTOR'S USE ONLY		ACTION REQUESTED	
1. LOC NUMBER 000740	<input type="checkbox"/> Prepare reply for the Director's signature DATE DUE _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Prepare reply for appropriate signature DATE DUE _____ <input type="checkbox"/> FOIA DATE DUE _____ <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Necessary Action		
2. DATE SIGNED BY DIRECTOR <i>Cleared 6/21/07, all attached letters.</i>			

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>Burton</i>	DATE <i>5-30-07</i>
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4.			

Upstate Maternal Fetal Medicine, PA

Phillip C. Greig, MD

373 Halton Road * Halton Medical Plaza * Greenville, SC 29615
(864) 331-3230 Fax (864) 331-3236

May 24, 2007

RECEIVED

MAY 29 2007

log: Burton

N/A

Department of Health & Human Services
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

Dr. O. Marion Burton
Medical Director
State of South Carolina
Department of Health and Human Services

Dr Burton,

It has recently come to my attention that Medicaid may be discontinuing coverage for Home Preterm Labor services. I want to let you how this would affect my practice and my patients. I am a Perinatologist specializing in high risk pregnancies and I deal with the problem of preterm labor on a regular basis. I have successfully utilized Home Monitoring, and the Terbutaline Pump, as an alternative to hospitalization for many years. This has been beneficial to both saving healthcare dollars as well as allowing my patients to be managed at home in a less stressful environment.

There was a time when these services were not an option for the Medicaid patient, and we found ourselves struggling with what to do with patients that needed extra nursing attention but did not need to be hospitalized. I have found that if the problem is identified early and the patient is tocolyzed appropriately, many of these pregnancies have been prolonged and we have seen improved outcomes.

I feel strongly that you would be limiting the management options and increasing hospitalizations if Medicaid decides to discontinue coverage. This population generally needs all the support we can provide them.

I appreciate your consideration in the matter, feel free to contact me if I can be of any assistance.

Sincerely,

Phillip C. Greig
Phillip C. Greig MD
Perinatologist

RECEIVED

MAY 29 2007

Department of Health & Human Services
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR



State of South Carolina
Department of Health and Human Services

Mark Sanford
Governor

Robert M. Kerr
Director

June 21, 2007

Phillip C. Greig, MD
Upstate Maternal Fetal Medicine, PA
373 Halton Road
Halton Medical Plaza
Greenville, South Carolina 29615

Dear Dr. Greig:

Thank you for corresponding to relate your concerns regarding South Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (SCDHHS) payment for Home Preterm Labor services. Let me assure you that there are no plans to discontinue this Agency's support for this care. Specifically, tocolysis and home nursing support are vital components of prenatal care for some high-risk pregnancies. SCDHHS has been reviewing the overall scope of these services, however, and are in discussions regarding the bundling or packaging of some of these items of care. We are working closely with the OB/Gyn physician community to assure that any further decisions will continue to offer providers of this care the support that is needed.

If you would like to discuss this in more detail, please call me at 803-898-2500 or 803-255-3400. Thank you for your insights relating to this issue and for caring for South Carolina Medicaid beneficiaries.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "O. Marion Burton".

O. Marion Burton, MD
Medical Director

OMB/bk