

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
OFFICE OF DIRECTOR

ACTION REFERRAL

TO	DATE
Myers / Buxton / Bios	10-15-09

DIRECTOR'S USE ONLY	ACTION REQUESTED
1. LOC NUMBER 000175	<input type="checkbox"/> Prepare reply for the Director's signature DATE DUE _____
2. DATE SIGNED BY DIRECTOR Cleared 10/27/08, letter attached.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Prepare reply for appropriate signature DATE DUE 10-26-09 <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.			

Pee Dee Neurosurgical Service

Kenneth S. Kammer, M.D., F.A.C.S.
Diplomate, American Board
of Neurological Surgery

305 E. Cheves St. - Suite 300
Florence, South Carolina 29506
Telephone (843) 665-4758
FAX (843) 669-4956

October 14, 2009

RECEIVED

OCT 15 2009

Department of Health & Human Services
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

Dr. Marion Burton, Medical Director
S.C. Dept. of Health & Human Services
P.O. Box 8206
Columbia, S.C. 29202-8206

Dear Dr. Burton,

Thank you for your kind letter of September 4, 2009.
We greatly appreciate your help with petitioning to review our denials for:

Dustin L. Feagin, Franklin L. Gainey Jr., and Frances Dicker

We have not yet heard anything about the status of these cases. While we did fail to obtain prior authorization in these three cases it was due to the fact that while we received regular Medicare bulletins, we never received any Medicaid bulletins to alert us to changes in pre-authorization requirements.

You will be glad to know we do now receive these in e-mail form.

Thank you for your help in this matter. Can you give us a process update?

Sincerely,



Judith H. Kammer
Office Manager



State of South Carolina
Department of Health and Human Services

Mark Sanford
Governor

Emma Forkner
Director

September 4, 2009

Judith H. Kammer
Office Manager
Pee Dee Neurosurgical Service
305 E. Cheves St. - Suite 300
Florence, SC 29506

Dear Ms. Kammer:

Thank you for forwarding the clinical records on the three Medicaid beneficiaries who required surgery for relief of pain and other symptomatology related to degenerative disc disease. These surgeries all appear to be medically indicated, and as you have noted, have resulted in the potential to return to a more productive life.

The remaining issue is the failure to obtain prior authorization for these procedures in accordance with SC Department of Health and Human Services provider guidelines. Because the surgeries were all medically indicated and have resulted in improved symptomatology, I will petition the original reviewers and agency management to ascertain if an exception to policy can be allowed. Someone will be getting back with you in a few weeks regarding a subsequent decision.

Thank you for your advocacy regarding these patients and for caring for SC Medicaid beneficiaries. If you need to talk further with me about this issue, please call 803-255-3400 or 803-898-2580.

Sincerely,

Marion Burton MD,

O. Marion Burton
Medical Director

log # 99 ✓

Log 4175

October 26, 2009

Judith H. Kammer
Office Manager
Pee Dee Neurosurgical Service
305 E. Cheves St., Suite 300
Florence, SC 29506

Re: Review of SC Department of Health and Human Services (SC DHHS) Denials

Dear Ms. Kammer,

Thank you for the follow-up correspondence related to this matter. I have reviewed the clinical documentation ^{per my review} related to these cases and have determined that each of them was medically necessary and appropriate clinical care was rendered. Even with this attestation, the agency indicates that payment cannot be provided for these services because no prior authorization was obtained.

SC DHHS is reviewing this entire matter to ascertain if any further consideration is appropriate.

With the uncertainty of the above, your next step could be to appeal directly to the hearing and appeals office at SC DHHS. You may reach them by calling 803-898-2580 and asking for that extension. Normally, Brenda James answers this phone line and can direct you to the appropriate office. Feel free to use this letter confirming the appropriateness of this care.

If I can help in any further regard, please do not hesitate to call me at 803-898-2580 or 803-255-3400. I regret that I was unable to receive a more favorable response. Perhaps, an appeal will have a different outcome.

Sincerely,

O. Marion Burton, M.D.
Medical Director

October 27, 2009

Judith H. Kammer
Office Manager
Pee Dee Neurosurgical Service
305 E. Cheves St., Suite 300
Florence, SC 29506

Re: Review of SC Department of Health and Human Services (SC DHHS)
Denials

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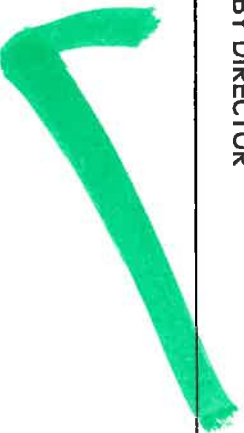


O. Marion Burton, M.D.
Medical Director

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
OFFICE OF DIRECTOR

ACTION REFERRAL

TO <i>Myers</i>	DATE <i>10-15-09</i>
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