

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

**ACTION REFERRAL**

TO <i>Myers</i>	DATE <i>9-3-08</i>
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<b>DIRECTOR'S USE ONLY</b>	<b>ACTION REQUESTED</b>
1. LOG NUMBER  <i>000132</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Prepare reply for the Director's signature DATE DUE _____
2. DATE SIGNED BY DIRECTOR  <i>cc: Singleton, Ms. Farber Cleave &amp; G/10/08, other attaches.</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Prepare reply for appropriate signature DATE DUE <i>9-12-08</i> DATE DUE _____
	<input type="checkbox"/> Necessary Action

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

819 Oleander Drive SE  
Aiken, SC 29801  
2 September 2008

**RECEIVED**

SEP 03 2008

Department of Health & Human Services  
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

Emma Forkner  
Director, SC Medicaid  
Dept of Health and Human Services  
P.O. Box 8206  
Columbia, SC 29202-8206

Dear Director Forkner,

I am writing to encourage you to intervene on behalf of Dr. Steven Brooks, Pediatric Ophthalmologist, from Augusta, GA.

Dr. Brooks is a fellowship trained pediatric optnammologist. The majority of his patients are children. However, as an eye muscle specialist, he also treats adults.

My foster to adopt son, Quentin Rotan, had a severe case of strabismus (crossed eyes). Dr. Brooks' surgery restored his vision and changed his appearance dramatically. Dr. Brooks was recommended so highly to us by another Aiken family, the Kurt Eberl family, that we felt so confident taking our little boy to him. The recommendation was not too high --- Dr. Brooks is an extraordinarily skilled physician.

It has come to my attention that SC Medicaid is disqualifying Dr. Brooks' and/or changing his reimbursement status because he does not turn away adults who need eye muscle surgery.

This is not wise. Dr. Brooks' should not be treated this way. We need Dr. Brooks' skill to help those of use with children who have severe eye problems.

Please intervene in this decision to help keep Dr. Brooks' services available to South Carolina's precious children.

Very truly yours,



Amanda Willoner  
803-649-1816  
[mwbluebeard@bellsouth.net](mailto:mwbluebeard@bellsouth.net)

CF: Governor Mark Sanford  
Office of the Governor  
P.O. Box 12267  
Columbia, SC 29211



*State of South Carolina*  
*Department of Health and Human Services*

log #132

Mark Sanford  
Governor

Emma Forkner  
Director

September 10, 2008

Ms. Amanda Willoner  
819 Oleander Drive, South East  
Aiken, South Carolina 29801

Dear Ms. Willoner:

Thank you for your letter of support for Dr. Steven Brooks. We are glad that he has developed such a positive working relationship with his patients and we appreciate his dedication to them.

The reason Dr. Brooks is no longer reimbursed at the Pediatric Physicians Sub-specialist Program rate is that he no longer meets the caseload requirements for participation. In order to be reimbursed at the higher rate associated with that program, at least 85% of the physician's practice must be children 18 years or younger. This requirement applies to every provider who is enrolled in the program. Dr. Brooks is still a South Carolina Medicaid provider and can be reimbursed at our current physicians' fee schedule. In the event that his practice composition changes and he again meets the requirements for participation in the Pediatric Physicians Sub-specialist Program, he is welcome to reapply. We appreciate your support of Dr. Brooks and hope this letter has addressed your concerns. If you have any additional questions, please do not hesitate to contact Ms. Valeria Williams, Division Director of Physicians Services, at (803) 898-2660.

Sincerely,  
  
Felicity Myers  
Deputy Director

FM/gwds

cc: Steven E. Brooks, M.D.