

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES  
OFFICE OF DIRECTOR

ACTION REFERRAL

TO <i>Singleton</i>	DATE <i>6-17-13</i>
------------------------	------------------------

DIRECTOR'S USE ONLY	ACTION REQUESTED
1. LOG NUMBER <i>000392</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Prepare reply for the Director's signature DATE DUE _____
2. DATE SIGNED BY DIRECTOR <i>cc: Mr. Heck, Host</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Prepare reply for appropriate signature DATE DUE <i>6-27-13</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.			

**RECEIVED**

JUN 14 2013

**TEAMHealth.**  
HOSPITAL MEDICINE

Department of Health & Human Services  
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

One St. Francis Drive  
Greenville, SC 29601  
Telephone: (864) 360-4744

May 29, 2013

**VIA CERTIFIED MAIL/RRR**

**Tony Keck**

*Director*

South Carolina Department of Health & Human Services  
1801 Main Street, PO Box 8206  
Columbia, SC 29201-8206

Re: Primary Care Rate Increase – Physician Self-Attestation Form

Dear Mr. Keck:

We are writing to seek clarity on the eligibility requirements for South Carolina's physicians to participate in the Affordable Care Act's increased Medicaid payments for primary care physicians.

Specifically, we seek confirmation that our interpretation of the Medicaid Primary Care Physician Certification and Attestation Form's ("Form") requirements is accurate so that we can properly advise our affiliated physicians regarding their eligibility for the increased payments.

According to the language in the Form, an eligible physician must attest that he/she is a physician with a specialty designation of family medicine, general internal medicine, pediatric medicine or an associated subspecialty, and with current Board certification recognized by the American Board of Medical Specialties, American Board of Physician Specialties, or the American Osteopathic Association.

Although it is unclear what is meant by the phrase "specialty designation" on the Form, our interpretation of this language is that physicians may attest to the requisite "specialty designation" so long as they have the appropriate underlying Board certification.

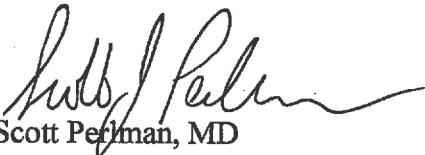
Accordingly, our physicians will be relying upon their applicable board certifications to attest to this element of the Form, notwithstanding that their original Medicaid enrollment forms may designate a different specialty, such as emergency medicine. In such instances, we will advise our eligible physicians to update their enrollment forms on file with your agency to reflect a specialty designation of family medicine, general internal medicine, pediatric medicine or an associated subspecialty, as appropriate, so that their enrollment information will correspond to the completed attestation forms.

As you know, your agency allows physicians to submit the self-attestation forms throughout the year in order to receive retroactive increased payments back to January 1, 2013. However, given the quarterly payment schedule, and the fact that the logistics to manage the self-attestation forms are time and resource consuming, time is of the essence as we gear up to do this.

**We would appreciate hearing back from a representative from your agency if this interpretation is incorrect within the next twenty (20) business days from the date of this letter. After that, we will proceed in accordance with this interpretation and with the enrollment process identified above.**

If our interpretation of the Form's requirements is incorrect, or if you have any other questions, please contact me at (864) 360-4744 or [Scott\\_Perlman@teamhealth.com](mailto:Scott_Perlman@teamhealth.com) anytime. I am the designated contact person at TEAMHealth responsible for Medicaid parity eligibility issues in South Carolina. Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Best regards,



Scott Perlman, MD

Regional Medical Director

TeamHealth Hospital Medicine, South Carolina Region

SP/APG/KF