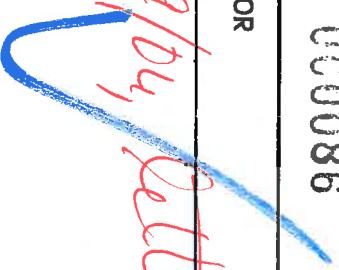


DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
OFFICE OF DIRECTOR

ACTION REFERRAL

TO	DATE
<i>Bouding</i>	<i>7-14-06</i>

DIRECTOR'S USE ONLY		ACTION REQUESTED	
1. LOG NUMBER	000086	<input type="checkbox"/> Prepare reply for the Director's signature	DATE DUE _____
2. DATE SIGNED BY DIRECTOR	<i>Cleaved 7/19/04, letter attached.</i> 	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Prepare reply for appropriate signature	DATE DUE <i>7-25-06</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.			

SPARTANBURG RHEUMATOLOGY

1330 BOILING SPRINGS ROAD

SUITE 2500

SPARTANBURG SC 29303

1 864 585 5433

FAX: 591 4053

RECEIVED

JUL 14 2006

Department of Health & Human Services
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

7/11/06

Re: Cheryl Gardener

McL # 5780276644

To whom concerned:

I have seen Ms. Gardener since 11/8/05, the date of her initial visit. She was a new patient to me. She has soft tissue rheumatism (irritation, not inflammation or degeneration, of the soft tissue in contrast to the bone and joint). Since that time I have seen her in the year 2006 on 1/24/06 (her initial follow up visit), 2/21/06 and last on 4/12/06.

These visits do not seem excessive for her especially when compared to other patients with that diagnosis.

If you need further information please let me know.

Sincerely,

James T Halla, MD





State of South Carolina
Department of Health and Human Services

Mark Sanford
Governor

Robert M. Kerr
Director

July 19, 2006

James T. Halla, MD
Spartanburg Rheumatology
1330 Boiling Springs Road, Suite 2500
Spartanburg, South Carolina 29303

Re: Cheryl Gardner

Dear Dr. Halla:

Thank you for corresponding regarding this patient. The South Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) can support four (4) additional physician office visits for this fiscal year ending June 30, 2006. Please attach a copy of this correspondence to any physician office visit claim you have that will exceed the twelve-visit limit. This will alert our staff to override the automatic system payment rejection edit and reimburse you for this care. Please assist the patient and the S.C. Medicaid program to make optimal use of these visits for medically necessary care. Additional visits should, in general, be physician directed as opposed to patient directed. Also, the 99211 code can accommodate brief encounters and does not count against the allotted number of office visits.

If you would like to discuss this further, please call me 803-898-2500 or 803-255-3400. Thank you for your advocacy regarding this patient and for caring for South Carolina Medicaid beneficiaries.

Sincerely,

O. Marion Burton, MD
Medical Director

OMB/bk

Log # 86

James T. Halla, MD
Page 2

bc: Melanie Giese
Val Williams