

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

**ACTION REFERRAL**

TO	DATE
Myers	8-29-08

<b>DIRECTOR'S USE ONLY</b>	<b>ACTION REQUESTED</b>
1. LOG NUMBER  100125	<input type="checkbox"/> Prepare reply for the Director's signature DATE DUE _____ <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Prepare reply for appropriate signature DATE DUE <u>9-10-08</u> <input type="checkbox"/> FOIA DATE DUE _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Necessary Action
2. DATE SIGNED BY DIRECTOR <u>Cleaved 8/29/08, letter attached.</u>	

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



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

Mark Sanford  
Governor

Emma Fortner  
Director

August 29, 2008

William E. O'Quinn, MD  
P.O. Box 247  
215 Dorange Road  
Branchville, SC 29432

Dear Bill,

Thank you for corresponding regarding the Levaquin issue. There was considerable discussion at a recent South Carolina Department of Health and Human Services [DHHS] Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee meeting regarding this issue. I do not recall the specifics of the entire discussion, but believe that Levaquin was not recommended for inclusion in the preferred drug list. I will check on this while I am in the Agency next week and will have someone get back with you.

Recommendations from the P and T committee are not implemented until approved by the Agency Director. In any case, State Medicaid programs cannot have strict formularies in which medications cannot be obtained. All FDA approved pharmaceuticals are normally accessible for physicians who wish to prescribe these for their patients. If Levaquin is not available on the preferred drug list, you may obtain it for your patients by utilizing a brief prior approval process.

In any case, I will review this matter over the next few days and have someone give your office a call.

Thank you for your advocacy regarding your patients and for caring for SC Medicaid beneficiaries. I hope you are doing well.

Sincerely,

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

O. Marion Burton, MD  
Medical Director

cc: Jim Assey  
Mike Blakely  
Mary Roberts

WILLIAM E. O'QUINN, M.D.  
P.O. BOX 247  
215 DORANGE ROAD  
BRANCHVILLE, SOUTH CAROLINA 29432

DIPLOMATE, A.B.F.P.

PHONE 803-274-8400  
FAX 803-274-8817

**RECEIVED**

August 13, 2008

AUG 15 2008

Department of Health & Human Services  
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

Marion Burton, MD  
Medical Director  
Dept of Health and Human Services  
PO Box 8206  
Columbia, SC 29202-8206

Dear Marion,

I understand that Levaquin may be taken away as an option for some of our Medicaid patients in the near future. I certainly would hate to see that happen. I have been a large user of Levaquin and think that having only Cipro and Avelox available would be detrimental to my practice.

I would appreciate anything that you could do to ensure that Levaquin remains an option.

Thank you

  
William E. O'Quinn, MD