

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

ACTION REFERRAL

TO <i>Jacobs</i>	DATE <i>12-22-08</i>
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DIRECTOR'S USE ONLY	ACTION REQUESTED
1. LOG NUMBER <i>100333</i>	Prepare reply for the Director's signature DATE DUE _____
2. DATE SIGNED BY DIRECTOR <i>[Signature]</i>	I <input type="checkbox"/> Prepare reply for appropriate signature DATE DUE _____
<i>Change to H/A per</i> <i>Denise & pop are attached</i> <i>e-mail response</i>	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Necessary Action DATE DUE _____	

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

JOE WILSON
2ND DISTRICT, SOUTH CAROLINA

ASSISTANT MAJORITY WHIP

COMMITTEES:
ARMED SERVICES
INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS
EDUCATION AND THE WORKFORCE
HOUSE POLICY

Congress of the United States House of Representatives

RECEIVED

December 18, 2008

DEC 22 2008

Department of Health & Human Services
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

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AIKEN*
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BARNWELL
BEAUFORT
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HAMPTON
JASPER
LEXINGTON
ORANGEBURG*
RICHLAND*
(*PARTS OF)

ERIC DELL
CHIEF OF STAFF

Ms. Emma Forkner
Director
SC Health & Human Services
1801 Main Street, PO Box 8206
Columbia, South Carolina 29202-8206

Re: Georgia Clancy
46 Turnbridge Dr.
Hilton Head Island, South Carolina 29928

Dear Ms. Forkner,

I am writing to you on behalf of the above named constituent who has contacted me regarding a problem with South Carolina Medicaid covering the cost of Avastin as a cancer treatment.

Enclosed is a letter from Tom Clancy further explaining their concerns. Any assistance that you could provide would be appreciated. Thank you for your time and concern in this and all other matters.

Please respond to the Lowcountry District Office at Post Office Box 1538, Beaufort, South Carolina 29902. It is an honor to represent the people of the Second Congressional District of South Carolina, and I value your input.

Very truly yours,



JOE WILSON
Member of Congress

JW/cs
Enclosure

MIDLANDS OFFICE:
1700 SUNSET BLVD. (US 378), SUITE 1
WEST COLUMBIA, SC 29169
MAILING ADDRESS: P.O. BOX 7381
COLUMBIA, SC 29202
(803) 939-0041
FAX: (803) 939-0078

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WASHINGTON, DC 20515-4002
(202) 225-2452
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WEBSITE: www.house.gov/joewilson

LOWCOUNTRY OFFICE:
903 PORT REPUBLIC STREET
P.O. BOX 1538
BEAUFORT, SC 29901
(843) 521-2530
FAX: (843) 521-2535

Tom Clancy

46 Tumbridge Dr.
Hilton Head Is., S. C. 29928
843.785.3769

Dec 4, 2008

Congressman Joe Wilson

Lawsonville office

P.O. Box 1538

Beaufort, S.C. 29901

I will try to keep it brief but it is hard to
believe it is happening to us. My wife George, was
diagnosed with terminal stage 3 ovarian cancer in Jan. 200
she lost her job in Oct 2005 ^(+ medical insurance) as we got married. that same
month because my Blue Cross/Blue Shield would put her on
my policy without any preconditions.

she went on disability because she could not work
as a dental assistant. After 2 years she was put on
Medicaid Part A + B. Medicaid South Carolina would not
pay for the anastomosis because it was not approved for
ovarian cancer. When Florida according to the Mayo
clinic they will pay for it. Blue Cross/BS was paying
for it since May of 2007 because they agreed it was
medically necessary. However when Medicaid Part B
kicked in they would not pay for it. Since Blackwell
said they would not pay for it, BC/BS would not

pay for it. So we dropped medicine part B. OK
BC/BS started to pay for it but now say we have
to have both Part A + Part B if we are
eligible.

I need to have medicine (5c agent)
approved by another for ovarian cancer just
like I would or we have to move to Florida.
Ovarian is expensive & would break us
financially.

In a nutshell if we did not have
medicine A + B, Blue Cross would pay for it
now they won't. We pay ^{\$}16,000 a year for the
BC/BS policy.

I think medicine should pay for the
another which is approved for colon & lung
cancer & is being tested for ovarian.

It is working well & is for only 3000. He
has tried about 4 other protocols & these have
not worked well or long.

Please help.

Sincerely

John → Alan

From: Denise Epps
To: Brenda James; Jan Polatty; Lena Girgis
Date: 12/31/2008 10:48 am
Subject: log # 0333 -- due 1/2/09

CC: Jennifer Lynch; Mark Of
Cong. Wilson's Lowcountry Office forwarded Mr. Clancy's letter regarding Medicare not covering his wife's cancer drug, Avastin, to our agency by mistake -- it should have gone to Medicare -- and Mr. Clancy has already spoken with them and they, in turn, have now contacted Medicare on their behalf.

So, no responses necessary for this log letter, per Mark, as I have also followed up with both Mr. Clancy and Cong. Wilson's ofc. and The Clancy's would not qualify for Medicaid and do have private health insurance as well as Medicare.

Also, I let Mr. Clancy know what I found out about Avastin on the Medicare and CMS websites. It is approved for coverage through Part B for some cancers but not ovarian and public forums are now being held to see if this is something that should be changed. Since Avastin is considered an "off-label" drug, The Clancy's have filed a grievance with Medicare and if denied, they will appeal as his wife has tried 5 other drugs but Avastin is the only one that works for her.

I will send the folder along with a copy of this email to you today but please close.

Thanks, ladies!!
Denise



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To: Brenda James; Jan Polatty; Lena Girgis
CC: Jennifer Lynch; Mark Or
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Denise

PLEASE Close - log 0333