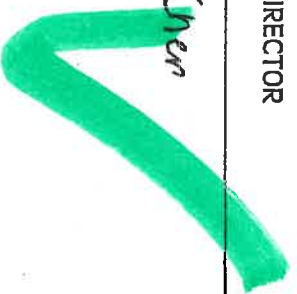


DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
OFFICE OF DIRECTOR

ACTION REFERRAL

TO <i>Myers</i>	DATE <i>3-15-10</i>
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DIRECTOR'S USE ONLY	ACTION REQUESTED
1. LOG NUMBER <i>101387</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Prepare reply for the Director's signature DATE DUE _____
2. DATE SIGNED BY DIRECTOR <i>cc: Ms. Forkner</i> 	<input type="checkbox"/> Prepare reply for appropriate signature DATE DUE _____ <input type="checkbox"/> FOIA DATE DUE _____ <input checked="" 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.			

Columbia Eye Clinic, P.A.

1920 Pickens Street • Columbia, SC 29201 • 803-779-3070 • Toll Free 1-800-922-6057
100 Palmetto Park Boulevard • Lexington, SC 29072 • 803-356-0000
100 Summit Centre Dr. • Columbia, SC 29229 • 803-252-8566
www.columbiaeyeclinic.com

Ophthalmology

Comprehensive Ophthalmology

Hail H. Crosswell, Jr., M.D., F.A.C.S.

William A. Johnson, M.D.

William Cain, Jr., M.D.

Edward G. Mintz, M.D.

Garner J. Wild, M.D.

William A. Johnson, Jr., M.D.

D. Reynell Harder-Smith, D.O.

Vitreous, Retinal Diseases and Surgery

William F. Crosswell, M.D.

Derek L. Barker, M.D.

Pediatric Ophthalmology and Strabismus

Wilson G. McWilliams, M.D.

Glaucoma

Charles D. Finley, M.D.

Lynn Hicks Snoddy, M.D.

Neuro-Ophthalmology

R. Mitchell Newman, Jr., M.D.

Cornea and External Diseases

H. Holland Crosswell, III, M.D.

RECEIVED

MAR 15 2010

Department of Health & Human Services
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

March 12, 2010

Emma Forkner, Director

Dept. of Health & Human Services

PO Box 8206

Columbia, SC 29202

Dear Ms. Forkner:

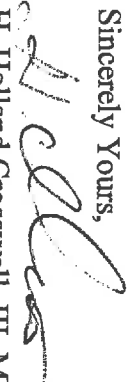
In 2007 Medicaid agreed to increase the reimbursement for corneal transplant tissue (V2785) to cover the cost of the tissue at that time. The Columbia Eye Surgery Center continues to provide this valuable service to patients in need of corneal transplants. The tissue is purchased from Lifepoint, Inc. and the costs have increased. The cost of the tissue is \$2,800 for whole globes and \$3,500 for pre-cut tissue for endothelial keratoplasties.

Corneal transplants are needed for many diseases of the cornea ranging from keratoconus to corneal edema (swelling). Transplants can restore vision to patients with these problems when there are no other alternatives. Historically, very few Medicaid patients need this service but we feel it should be available to all patients in need, regardless of their insurance coverage or inability to pay out of pocket.

Offering corneal transplants at our ambulatory surgery center is important for us to care for these patients. Our center has specialized equipment used to cut and prepare the tissue for transplant. Also, we have highly trained personnel that are required to set up and handle this equipment. I believe that we can provide state of the art care very efficiently for these patients.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter. If any questions arise, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely Yours,


H. Holland Crosswell, III MD