


DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
OFFICE OF DIRECTOR

ACTION REFERRAL

TO <i>Myers</i>	DATE <i>4-21-09</i>
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DIRECTOR'S USE ONLY		ACTION REQUESTED	
1. LOG NUMBER <i>100593</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Prepare reply for the Director's signature DATE DUE _____		
2. DATE SIGNED BY DIRECTOR <i>Cleared 4/29/09, letters attached.</i> 		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Prepare reply for appropriate signature DATE DUE <i>4-30-09</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.			

Children's Respiratory Center, PA

58 Bear Drive
Greenville, South Carolina 29605
Appointments: (864) 220-8000



Fax: (864) 220-8009

Jane V. Gwinn, MD
Board Certified:
Pediatrics
Pediatric Pulmonology

Lisa DuBose, APRN, BC
Board Certified:
Family Nurse Practitioner

April 13, 2009

RE: Medicaid Formulary

Mr. James Assey

RECEIVED

Director of Pharmacy Services

PO Box 8206

APR 15 2009

Columbia, SC 29202-8206

Department of Health & Human Services
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

Dear Mr. Assey,

We are writing to you with concerns regarding the proposed addition of ProAir to the Medicaid formulary. We understand that the respiratory section is soon to be evaluated. We have had multiple patients with poor response to ProAir. Our teenage population is in agreement regarding the lack of effectiveness, bad taste and repeated clogging of the device despite proper cleaning. The families we have worked with have all overwhelmingly had poor opinions of ProAir.

Our concern is of course, always for the safety of our patients. If Medicaid decides to use ProAir in place of Ventolin HFA or Xopenex HFA, we are fearful of an increase in ER usage when the child's rescue drug simply does not work. Many of our patients have backup nebulized therapy available, but we are sure those patients in primary care may only have an inhaler. The budget constraints we are all facing now are certainly going to further limit therapies available. However, we would hope those therapies chosen put the patients in the least amount of harm, by affording them the best efficacy for their disease state.

The remaining inhaled beta-agonists (Ventolin HFA, Xopenex HFA, Proventil HFA and Maxair) all seem to work equally well, depending on the patient. We thank you in advance for your time and attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Jane V. Gwinn, MD
Jane V. Gwinn, MD

Lisa A. DuBose, APRN, BC
Lisa A. DuBose, APRN, BC

*FM
Do we need to
log? get better
log, get better*

cc: Dr. O. Marion Burton

Respiratory Disorders:

- * Asthma
- * Cystic Fibrosis
- * Bronchopulmonary Dysplasia (BPD)
- * Congenital Stridor
- * Recurrent pneumonia
- * Tuberculosis (TB)
- * Apnea of prematurity

Professional Services:

- * Evaluation/Management
- * Patient Education
- * Pulmonary Function Evaluation
- * Acute Asthma Care
- * Flexible Fiberoptic Bronchoscopy
- * Home Ventilator Management
- * Environmental Evaluation

Clinics:

- * CF/Respiratory Clinic
- * CF/Nutrition Clinic
- * BPD Clinic

Log 000593



State of South Carolina
Department of Health and Human Services

Mark Sanford
Governor

Emma Forkner
Director

April 29, 2009

Jane V. Gwinn, MD
Lisa A. DuBose, APRN, BC
Children's Respiratory Center, PA
58 Bear Drive
Greenville, South Carolina 29605

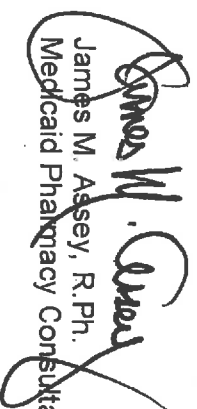
Dear Dr. Gwinn and Ms. DuBose:

Thank you for your letter regarding the South Carolina Medicaid Preferred Drug List (PDL) program's coverage of Beta Adrenergic Device, Short-Acting Inhalers. We certainly value your input and your desire to provide optimal care for your patients.

As I discussed on the phone with Ms. DuBose, the preferred products in this class remain Albuterol CFC, Ventolin@HFA and Xopenex@HFA. No change in the designation of these three medications as preferred by Medicaid is under consideration, which is what your practice advocates.

Thank you again for your letter regarding this issue. Your continued participation in the South Carolina Medicaid program is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,


James M. Assey, R.Ph.
Medicaid Pharmacy Consultant

JMA/mgbc

cc: O. Marion Burton, MD