

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

ACTION REFERRAL

TO <i>Singleton/Boucher</i>	DATE <i>1-10-14</i>
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DIRECTOR'S USE ONLY	ACTION REQUESTED
1. LOG NUMBER <i>000230</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Prepare reply for the Director's signature DATE DUE _____
2. DATE SIGNED BY DIRECTOR _____	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Prepare reply for appropriate signature DATE DUE <i>1-21-14</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.			

SOUTH CAROLINA DENTAL ASSOCIATION

Organized 1869 • A Constituent of the American Dental Association

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JAN 10 2014

Department of Health & Human Services
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

Friday, December 20, 2013

Stephen Boucher
South Carolina Department of Health & Human Services (DHHS)
PO Box 8206
1801 Main Street
Columbia, SC 29202-8206

Dear Steve:

The South Carolina Dental Association (SCDA) is appreciative to the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) for the joint work we have done regarding the Medicaid Dental Program. We are looking forward to the meeting planned for January 24, 2014, to review the overall dental benefits for children and discuss the reimplementation of the adult program.

As we plan for the meeting in January, the SCDA would like to have a detailed discussion on a fee increase for the services provided. As you know, a few years ago, the dentists faced two 3% cuts along with the elimination of the emergency adult program.

The SCDA is in full support of bringing back the emergency dental adult program, and the possibility of adding preventive services for adults. Before that final decision is made, would it be possible for some of the money targeted for adult preventive services to be used for a fee increase in services provided for the children?

The SCDA is aware that pediatricians have received increases in their reimbursement rates recently and we strongly feel that an increase for the dentists is overdue, especially since there has not been one since 2000.

Although the current numbers may not reflect an access to care issue, and the current numbers may reflect more children being seen, the SCDA is very concerned about the future. We are beginning to hear from more and more dentists that they may no longer be able to afford to accept Medicaid or they are no longer accepting new Medicaid patients. This concerns the SCDA that an access to care problem may be looming in the near future.

The SCDA has and will be supportive of the Medicaid program, but we urge the DHHS to consider some type of fee increase that would be beneficial to all.

Do not hesitate to contact us for any information.

Sincerely,

Dr. Thomas Edmonds
SCDA President

Dr. David Moss
SCDA President Elect

Mr. Phil Latham
SCDA Executive Director



SOUTH CAROLINA DENTAL CARE FOUNDATION
120 STONEMARK LANE • COLUMBIA, SOUTH CAROLINA 29210

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Columbia, SC 29202-8206



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