


DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
OFFICE OF DIRECTOR

ACTION REFERRAL

TO <i>Myers</i>	DATE <i>8-12-08</i>
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DIRECTOR'S USE ONLY	ACTION REQUESTED
1. LOG NUMBER <i>100087</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Prepare reply for the Director's signature DATE DUE _____
2. DATE SIGNED BY DIRECTOR <i>Cleared 8/21/08, letter attached</i> 	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Prepare reply for appropriate signature DATE DUE <i>8-21-08</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.			

log: Myers
Appro Sign

From: Bryan Kost
To: Brenda James
Date: 8/11/2008 12:45:49 pm
Subject: please log ... Fwd: Miguel Martinez - Patient - Medicaid - Unison Health Care

thanks,

Bryan Kost
DHHS Public Information
803.898.2865
cell- 429.3201
kostbr@scdhs.gov

RECEIVED

AUG 1 3 2008

Department of Health & Human Services
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

>>> "DAVID THOMAS" <DT@scsenate.org> 8/11/2008 12:39:48 PM >>>
Dear Bryan,

Senator Thomas has asked that we assist Dr. Stokes in obtaining reimbursement for an emergency surgery he performed on Mr. Martinez. Please see details below. How can they refuse to cover emergency surgery?

Hope you are having a good summer.

Cordially,

Mary

Mary L. Riley
Chief of Staff - Research Director
Senate Banking and Insurance

>>> Glenda Godbee@southern-eye-associates.com> 8/11/2008 9:12 AM >> (mailto:Glenda.Godbee@southern-eye-associates.com>)

Dear Senator Thomas:

We need your help. Dr. Stokes performed emergency surgery on Miguel Martinez on November 1, 2007. Mr. Martinez has Medicaid and is insured with Unison Health Care, ID No. 0070311, DOB: 8-16-90.

We have been unable to get reimbursement for this surgery. After two appeals, they refused to help us further stating "all avenues have been exhausted". I spoke with Ms. Ford's (provider relations) office on 7-17-08 and again was told there was nothing they could do.

Firstly, the denial for this claim went to an incorrect address. After several phone calls, I finally received a copy. When I appealed they stated we did not appeal in the 45 days allowed and that no authorization was obtained. AGAIN, THIS WAS EMERGENCY SURGERY.

Dr. Douglas Stokes
Glenda Godbee, CMA
Insurance Coding Reimbursement Specialist
Southern Eye Associates
TAX ID: 57-0563896
glenda.godbee@southern-eye-associates.com



State of South Carolina
Department of Health and Human Services

Mark Sanford
Governor

Emma Forkner
Director

August 21, 2008

Log #87

Douglas Stokes, MD
Southern Eye Associates
104 Simpson Street
Greenville, South Carolina 29605

Dear Dr. Stokes:

We are in receipt of your email of August 11, 2008 to Senator David Thomas regarding reimbursement for emergency surgery performed on Mr. Miguel Martinez. Mr. Martinez was a Unison Health Plan member on the date of surgery, November 1, 2007. We welcome the opportunity to be of assistance.

I understand that David Smith, the Program Manager assigned to Unison Health Plan, contacted Mr. Dan Gallagher, President of Unison Health Plan of South Carolina, on August 11, 2008 concerning the denial of payment for this surgery. On August 12, 2008, Mr. Gallagher informed Mr. Smith that Unison reviewed the appeal and overturned the decision. Unison will contact you by letter regarding receiving payment.

We apologize for any inconvenience this may have caused. If you have any questions about this letter or need further assistance, please contact Mr. Smith at (803) 898-2639.

Sincerely,

Felicity Myers
Deputy Director

FM/hhc

cc: The Honorable David L. Thomas
Mary L. Riley, Chief of Staff – Research Director, Senate Banking and Insurance
Dan Gallagher, President, Unison Health Plan of South Carolina