



North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services
Division of Medical Assistance

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Beverly Eaves Perdue, Governor
Lanier M. Cansler, Secretary

Craig L. Gray, MD, MBA, JD, Director

June 30, 2011

Subject: Medicaid recipient notice regarding excessive use of CT scans

Dear County Director of Social Services:

North Carolina Community Care Network, Inc. and DMA's Program Integrity are working together to identify unnecessary and excessive use of medical services. One of these initiatives includes identifying recipients who have had 10 or more CT scans in the year 2010.

In early July 2011, a notice will be mailed out to these recipients informing them of the precautions regarding the excessive use of CT scans. The letter emphasizes the importance of the recipient to remind their doctor if previous scans have already been performed. The treating physician may not have complete knowledge of their medical history. This can avoid unnecessary procedures and lower the health risks associated with CT scans. The recipients are instructed to take this notice with them when they go to the emergency department or doctor's office.

If you have any questions regarding this information, please contact your Medicaid Program Representative.

Sincerely,

Craig L Gray, MD, MBA, JD, Director

CLG/el



June 30, 2011

To: Jane Doe
555 Main Street
Anywhere, NC 12345

Dear Ms. Doe,

This letter is to inform you that you had 10 or more CT scans in 2010. This is more than most people get in a year. Medicaid records show that you went through a CT scanner XX times in 2010.

CT scans, sometimes called CAT scans, expose you to radiation while taking a picture of what is inside your body. Too much radiation can be bad for your health. It can increase your chances of getting some kinds of cancer.

Sometimes CT scans are important for doctors to see what is going on when you are sick or hurt. But sometimes there may be other ways to figure out what is wrong.

If a doctor treating you does not know you well or have your medical records, that doctor will not know how many CT scans you have had. It is important for you to remind them of this information. Showing your doctors this letter will help them treat you as safely as possible. **Please take this letter with you when you go to the emergency department or doctor's office.**

Call 1-800-662-7030 if you have any questions.

If you would like help finding a primary care doctor in your town, contact your county DSS (Division of Social Services) office. Visit <http://www.ncdhhs.gov/dss/local/> for more information.

Wishing you the best of health,



Randall Best, MD JD
Chief Medical Officer
Division of Medical Assistance
NC DHHS



Holly Biola, MD MPH
Family Physician
Community Care of
North Carolina



Joshua Broder, MD
Emergency Physician
Duke University
Medical Center



Richard Semelka, MD
Radiologist
UNC Hospitals

**** Si usted habla español, esta carta es sobre su exposición a la radiación. Por favor, llame al 1-800-662-7030 para obtener más información. ****

