



Office of the Governor
Division of Medicaid

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Medicaid Combats Potential Fraud and Abuse

Day treatment services now require Division's preauthorization

JACKSON, MS.- (August 10, 2010) – Today, the Division of Medicaid notified providers of Day Treatment Services that it will require prior authorization of these services for children under the age of six effective October 1, 2010, as part of an ongoing effort to stem fraud and abuse in the program.

“Providers are aware of Medicaid policy requirements regarding Day Treatment Services and I expect them to comply with the policy”, said Medicaid Executive Director Dr. Robert L. Robinson. “We are seeing areas of concern from our review and from an investigation conducted by the Office of the Attorney General. Unfortunately there are young children who are in need of mental health services. But aside from abusing taxpayer money, providers will do these children a grave disservice if they unnecessarily label these children with serious disorders at such a young age and place them in intensive treatment programs”, stated Robinson. “It is a curious coincidence that providers tell us that these services are among their most profitable programs. We owe it to the taxpayers to make sure that their money is being spent appropriately and we owe it to the children and their families to make sure that they are appropriately diagnosed and treated for any illnesses they may have.”

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