

For Immediate Release  
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**Viagra Expenditure for FY 2001 Plus FY 2002 to Date**

The Mississippi Division of Medicaid records indicate that it spent \$175,187.01 in FY 2001, and from July 1, 2001 to January 7, 2002, \$102,099.41 for the prescription drug Viagra. Representative Bobby Moody, Chairman of the House Public Health and Welfare Committee, was provided with incorrect information. This situation has been rectified.

The Mississippi Medicaid program is heavily codified by Federal and State law. On November 30, 1998, the United States Department of Health and Human Services informed state Medicaid programs that the prescription drug Viagra must be covered through the Medicaid program. In response to this mandate, Mississippi Medicaid placed Viagra on prior approval and limited the amount of pills to two (2) per month.