

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
150 S. Independence Mall West
Suite 216, The Public Ledger Building
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19106-3499



Region III/Division of Medicaid and Children's Health Operations

SWIFT # 012120124007

APR 09 2012

Mr. Gary D. Alexander
Secretary of Public Welfare
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
Department of Public Welfare
Office of Medical Assistance programs
Bureau of Policy, Analysis and Planning
P.O. Box 8046
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17105

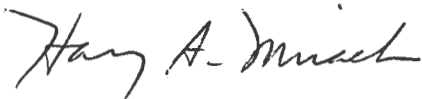
Dear Secretary Alexander:

We are pleased to inform you of the approval of Pennsylvania State Plan Amendment (SPA) 11-025, Changes to Pharmaceutical Payment Policy/Prior Authorization of Drugs. This SPA proposes to change the requirement for prior authorization of Benzodiazepines, adding prior authorization requirement for prescriptions of Benzodiazepines that represent duplicate therapy.

Enclosed are the approved SPA page and the signed CMS-179 form. The effective date of this amendment is December 12, 2011.

If you have any questions, you may contact Harry Mirach at (215) 861-4284 or Kia Banton at (215) 861-4252.

Sincerely,


for Francis McCullough
Associate Regional Administrator

Enclosures (2)

cc: Mr. Vincent Gordon, Deputy Secretary, Office of Medical Assistance Programs
Leesa Allen, Director, Bureau of Policy, Analysis and Planning, OMAP