



KENNY C. GUINN
Governor

STATE OF NEVADA
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES
DIVISION OF HEALTH CARE FINANCING AND POLICY
NEVADA MEDICAID

MICHAEL J. WILLDEN
Director

CHARLES DUARTE
Administrator

November 7, 2003

MEMORANDUM

Re: Preferred Drug List (PDL) Initiative

Assembly Bill 384, a law passed by the Nevada Legislature during the 2003 session, requires the Department of Human Resources to develop a list of preferred prescription drugs and manage the use of Medicaid prescription drugs utilizing step therapy and prior authorization. In order to accomplish this, the department is required to establish a Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee and expand the duties of the existing Drug Use Review Board. Our fiscal agent, First Health Services, has been contracted to assist us in this effort. The targeted implementation date for the first P&T Committee Meeting is January 2004 and the implementation of the PDL is scheduled for hard edits April 2004.

In order to gather input prior to the actual public hearing, a provider workshop will be held on November 13, 2003. The workshop will be held in the Legislative Building, Room 3161 at 9:00 a.m. The workshop will address the revisions to the Medicaid Services Manual, Chapter 1200 incorporating the PDL and P&T policy, the P&T bylaws and an overview of the operational process by FHSC.

Your participation and support of the Nevada Medicaid Program is appreciated, and I urge you to participate in the workshop and hearing process.

Sincerely,

Charles Duarte, Administrator
Division of Health Care Financing and Policy