

## HEALTH CARE MEETING

May 21, 2002

1:00pm to 2:30 pm

Facilitators: Bonnie Campbell, Administrator-Surgical Associates of Tupelo  
Juanita Smith, Licensed Social Worker-MA, Retired

### Overview of Meeting:

Report by Juanita Smith. This is an interpretation of information given verbally and written by group participants.

Bonnie and I combined our efforts to have a meeting of providers. Those who attended were pharmacists, practical nurses, nursing home administrators, social workers, doctors, members of the Council on Aging, pediatric and orthopedics administrators.

We would like to thank all of you for your attendance. It was a fact-revealing experience in some areas of Medicaid. A lot of social and political issues were brought forth that will have to be changed elsewhere. Your participation in the meeting was overwhelming. Fruitful recommendations and comments will be presented to the Health Care Committee and to the Medicaid people in Jackson on May 30. Governor Musgrove stated that he wanted the best Health Care Program in the nation. This seems to be the making of a long-term Health Care Program for Mississippi. Maybe we will have a part in making a change in this area of our society.

Following is a consensus of recommendations and comments from the group:

- \*Scrutinize eligibility
- \*Make closed formulary generic drugs only
- \*Raise co-pay
- \*Have a sliding scale co-pay
- \*Require drug companies to include a rebate program for their products to be on formulary
- \*Need more investigators for fraud and abuse

- \*Provide as much home management as possible
- \*Educate recipients in changing lifestyle and health care
- \*Optimize all services and spend money where needed most
- \*Put a cap on nursing home insurance
- \*Allow unused drugs in nursing homes to be returned to pharmacies for credit to Medicaid
- \*Do not add new programs
- \*Decrease income requirements for households that don't have a disabled family member
- \*Institute a time limit for disabled persons that are able-bodied
- \*Study states with successful healthcare programs
- \*Receive input from providers
- \*Alter reimbursement mechanisms
- \*Address claim submission and billing
- \*Do not pay for transportation of companion to medical appointments
- \*"Go ahead and do necessary cuts in Medicaid and get on with the show."
- \*"Please pass tort reform."

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