

Florida House of Representatives
Representative Ed Hooper

District 50

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July 17, 2008

Secretary Holly Benson
Agency for Health Care Administration
Bureau of Pharmacy
2727 Mahan Drive Mail Stop 38
Tallahassee, FL 32308

Dear Secretary Benson,

I had the opportunity to listen to a portion of the testimony of AHCA's workshop on antipsychotic drugs and young children which was held last week.

Ken Kramer, a constituent of mine, gave testimony that Florida Medicaid is paying millions of dollars for antipsychotic drugs for young children in violation of Florida's own Medicaid rules. Neither you or I have to be reminded of our state's financial situation and the fact that overdrugging of children is a major concern. Therefore, it behooves me to investigate this matter to find out if his allegation has any merit.

Is it a fact that millions of Florida Medicaid dollars have been reimbursed for an antipsychotic drug called Geodon over the last several years for children when this violates Florida's own Medicaid rules?

Is it a fact that Geodon is not FDA approved for use in children at all and there are no supporting citations on this drug for children in various drug compendia as specified by Florida Medicaid rules?

Is it permissible under Florida Medicaid rules to reimburse this class of drug (atypical antipsychotics) when they are prescribed for ADHD?

Sincerely,



Ed Hooper, District 50

Christopher Latvala, Legislative Assistant

Karen Flaherty, Executive Secretary

Council: Health Care

Committees: Healthy Families (Vice Chair), Infrastructure, State Affairs,
Legislative Committee on Intergovernmental Relations

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August 28, 2008

Secretary Holly Benson
Agency for Health Care Administration
Bureau of Pharmacy
2727 Mahan Drive mail Stop 38
Tallahassee, FL 32308

Dear Secretary Benson:

On July 17, 2008, I sent you the attached letter with questions concerning antipsychotic drugs for young children. To date, I have not received a response of any kind. Please provide me a response.

Sincerely,



Ed Hooper, District 50

Christopher Latvala, Legislative Assistant

Karen Flaherty, Executive Secretary

Council: Health Care
Committees: Healthy Families (Vice Chair), Infrastructure, State Affairs,
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