

Healthcare for Kids Rally Therapy Survey Results

1. Are you currently providing services to patients covered by Medicaid and PeachCare?

Yes	132	93.62%
No	9	6.38%

2. Are you currently accepting patients covered by CMOs?

Yes	96	69.06%
No	43	30.94%

3. Are you currently accepting fee-for-service Medicaid?

Yes	110	78.57%
No	30	21.43%

4. Do you have waiting lists for children who are private pay?

Yes	32	22.86%
No	108	77.14%

5. Do you have waiting lists for children with Medicaid only?

Yes	52	37.68%
No	86	62.32%

6. What percentage of your client base does fee-for-service Medicaid represent?

Average: 44 percent of client base is covered by non-CMO Medicaid

7. What percentage of your client base does Medicaid CMOs represent?

Average: 34 percent of client base is covered by CMO Medicaid

8. In the next three months, will you accept new fee-for-service Medicaid patients?

Yes	87	64.44%
No	48	35.56%

9. In the next three months will you accept new CMO patients?

Yes	66	48.53%
No	70	51.47%

10. Did you have any patients who missed therapy sessions in September because Medicaid was behind on approving, giving technical denials, etc. though Medicaid finally approved that therapy as medically necessary?

Yes	106	77.37%
No	31	22.63%

11. If you answered yes to the question above, how many patients in the past month have missed therapy?

Over 400 patients were reported to have missed therapy in one month. The survey sample only included 10 percent of therapy professionals in Georgia with membership in professional associations.

What has been the impact of the new prior authorization requirements on your small business?

(Editor's Note: A full compilation of responses from therapy

professionals is available upon request. Here is a sampling:

This has almost shut my business down. Due to the amount of time required to finish paperwork, I am unable to see clients the appropriate amount of time that is medically necessary. I have spent countless hours sending in pa's and have been denied for each one for various reasons. Since I am unable to see children the amount of time I normally would treat my income has been significantly impacted in that I am considering closing my doors. Unfortunately, the southwest area of Georgia cannot afford to lose providers as I can count on one hand the full-time therapist in this area. Children are losing access to quality healthcare due to these changes in the system.

It has decreased productive, direct treatment hours to children. We have also had to turn away children with needs due to the implementation of these new requirements.

The three CMO's have made it virtually impossible for any therapist or doctor to survive in the Medicaid arena due to non-payment for services rendered, delaying, minimizing &/or denying coverage for services to children & their families, inaccessibility & lack of customer support to answer questions and assist those trying to provide these services & the list goes on & on.

The results are going to be more costly to all Georgians in the future while trying to save a dollar in the present. I agree that the Medicaid system needs to be re-assessed and re-organized to cut down on fraud and abuse of the system, but not at the cost of our children's futures. What ever happened to "No Child Left Behind"?

Note: Please reference our press release issued on November 2, 2006 for additional information or visit us on the web at www.kidshealthcarega.org.