

SAMPLE Tashia M * DCBS

From: BECK Douglas * DCBS
Sent: Tuesday, October 27, 2015 2:12 PM
To: SAMPLE Tashia M * DCBS
Subject: FW: Discriminatory plan coverage for ESRD patients

From: Worsham, Melanie [<mailto:Melanie.Worsham@asante.org>]
Sent: Tuesday, October 27, 2015 11:24 AM
To: BECK Douglas * DCBS
Cc: FORDHAM Brian J * DCBS; CALI Laura N * DCBS
Subject: Discriminatory plan coverage for ESRD patients

It has come to my attention that Regence Blue Cross/Blue Shield has changed their SPD language that changes payment responsibilities to those members diagnosed with End Stage Renal Disease and requires members to obtain other coverage without regard to the members' best interest, or their eligibility for such coverage. These plans limit full dialysis coverage to three months or 42 treatments, after which point, patients must purchase Medicare to have full coverage. I am concerned that these plans do not reflect the ability of a patient to choose the coverage that is right for them and that they do not honor the maximum out-of-pocket guarantees that plans provide. As a ESRD patient that has been on dialysis since August 2014 and waiting for a kidney transplant, I am concerned that ESRD patients are being singled out. I work fulltime and pay my insurance premiums just like everyone else and feel that I should get full coverage throughout the year.

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