



THOMAS L. GARTHWAITE, M.D.
Director and Chief Medical Officer

FRED LEAF
Chief Operating Officer

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES
313 N. Figueroa, Los Angeles, CA 90012
(213) 240-7738

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Gloria Molina
First District

Yvonne Brathwaite Burke
Second District

Zev Yaroslavsky
Third District

Don Knabe
Fourth District

Michael D. Antonovich
Fifth District

March 30, 2005

Mr. Hal Netkin
Post Office Box 3465
Van Nuys, CA 91407

Dear Mr. Netkin:

This is in response to your January 25, 2005 e-mail (attached) to Robert Leibowitz of my staff regarding your five (5) additional questions related to form MC 13, Statement Of Citizenship, Alienage, and Immigration Status.

Every person requesting Medi-Cal is required to provide information about his/her citizenship or immigration status. The County of Los Angeles administers the use of the MC 13 for individuals applying for Medi-Cal through either the County Department of Public Social Services or the County Department of Health Services. The form is mandated by the Federal Government and by each State which participates in the Federal Medicaid Program, known as Medi-Cal in California. The MC 13 is filed in the Applicant's Medi-Cal case record. To our knowledge the Federal Government has not audited MC 13 information. Form MC 210, Statement of Facts contains some information which can be found on the MC 13. The county maintains a database for the MC 210.

If you have questions or need additional assistance, please contact Mr. Leibowitz at (661) 945-8492.

Very truly yours,


Fred Leaf
Chief Operating Officer

FL:bl (BOB\LETTERS\NETKIN005)
311:001

Attachment

c: Each Supervisor

From: Hal Netkin <LWatchdog@pacbell.net>
To: Bob Leibowitz <bleibowitz@ladhs.org>
Date: 1/25/2005 2:29:05 PM
Subject: Letter from Fred Leaf re: MC13

January 25, 2005

Dear Mr. Leibowitz:

Ref:
<<http://keepstuff.homestead.com/LeafToNetkinLetter5125.html>>Letter_from_Fred_Leaf

It was a pleasure to speak with you by phone today.

Per your advice, I am sending follow-up questions re the subject letter.

1. Which agency requires that the
<<http://lawatchdog.homestead.com/files/MedicalFormMC13.pdf>>MC13_form be submitted by patients?

2. What does the county do with the MC13 form after it is filled out by a patient?

A) Copy the information to a database?

B) File a hard copy in the patients records?

C) Send a hard copy to the Federal Government?

3. Does the Federal Government audit MC13 information, if so, when was the last time?

4) According to Mr. Leaf's letter: "Completion of he MC 13 is not necessary when it is known to be a duplication of information already available to the Department of Health Services (DHS) staff on another form completed and sign as part of the Medi-Cal application process."

A) what other form/s contain duplication of the immigration and citizenship information of the MC 13, Section
B, CITIZENSHIP/IMMIGRATION STATUS DECLARATION?

B) Does the county maintain databases for the other forms?

5) Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky has repeatedly told his constituents (including me) that county employees are prohibited by federal law from asking patients any questions about their citizenship or immigration status. Since it is mandatory that form MC 13 (or other form containing the same information) asks for citizenship and immigration status to be submitted by a patient, is Supervisor Yaroslavsky in error? Please explain the conflict.

Cordially,

Hal Netkin