



STATE OF OKLAHOMA
OKLAHOMA HEALTH CARE AUTHORITY

March 17, 2016

Dr. Vikas Jain
13500 S. Tulsa Dr.
Suite 200
OKC, OK 73170

Dear Dr. Jain:

Thank you for your letter addressed to the Oklahoma Health Care Authority Board Members which addressed your concerns about the reduction of services for sleep studies and CPAP therapy for adults aged 21 and older. You may be aware that the elimination of the referenced service was done at a time when the OHCA faced a severe budget shortfall. As a result, the agency reviewed all services which were optional services for possible elimination. Adult CPAP and Sleep Studies fell in this subset of optional adult services.

After much internal discussion, the agency was faced with either elimination of the optional adult services or further direct provider rate reductions. We chose to go with the former. The OHCA will readily admit that we understand the potential medical benefits of this service for the adult population. We will not dispute the science. What we are addressing, however, is the severe financial landscape which forces us to make some very difficult decisions. It is not a comfortable position in which to be. Pediatric services are mandated by the program but adult services are not.

The agency will state that if appropriations from the legislature improve over the near future, this is one of those services which we would like to restore. At the request of Dr. Kellie Jones and Ted Thurn, the agency reviewed the medical literature that was presented to show the efficacy of PAP therapy and related sleep study evidence based reports. The documents that we reviewed did not provide OHCA with reason to change the current recommendation.

Please do not hesitate to contact me regarding your continued concerns. If you would like to speak at the OHCA Board Meeting, please contact Lindsey Bateman.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive that reads "Sylvia Lopez MD".

Sylvia Lopez, MD, FAAP
Chief Medical Officer
Oklahoma Health Care Authority

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