



1360

Podiatric Medicine and Foot Surgery - (203) 874-6755

March 6, 2007

Senator Martin M. Looney

RE: Medicaid issue.

Dear Senator Looney:

We have discussed the issue of podiatry being included as a covered service for Medicaid patients in the State of Connecticut many times. I know you as a forthright legislator share the same concerns about the care of your constituents as we do for our patients. The podiatric profession for many years is taking care of Medicaid patients in a very dedicated and professional manner. We have cared for a broad spectrum of these patients from infants with congenital problems to the elderly with serious debilitating diseases such as advanced diabetes mellitus, in a very dignified manner. These people since we have not been able to care for them have sought care in very expensive venues such as the emergency rooms of our hospitals. These emergency rooms are already over burdened by patient populous. Care in the emergency room is not cost saving to the state of Connecticut; in fact it is one of the most expensive areas to receive care. Interesting enough our practitioners in many instances already provide care to adult Medicaid patients at no charge. This is really not an expectable situation. We are concerned that in fact many of the most ill patients of our state are not receiving the foot and ankle care that they should because of this podiatric exclusion.

We as a profession are ready to provide cost effective excellent care for the Medicaid patients of Connecticut, please re-include podiatry in the Medicaid program.

David C Novicki, D.P.M. F.A.C.F.A.S.

System Professor of Surgery
Yale University School of Medicine
Department of Orthopedics and Rehabilitative Medicine.
Section of Podiatric Surgery.

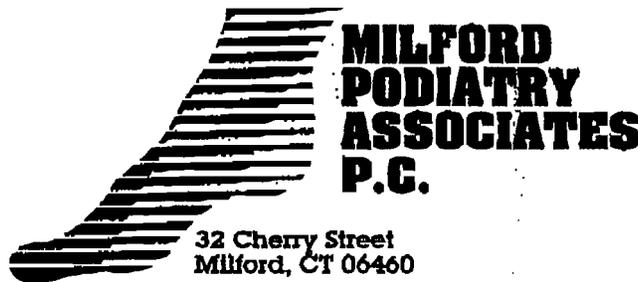
DCN/ANV/JUD

DD: 03/06/2007

DT: 03/07/2007

David C. Novicki, D.P.M., F.A.C.F.A.S.* • Martin M. Pressman, D.P.M., F.A.C.F.A.S.* • James G. Krantz, D.P.M., F.A.C.F.A.S.*
Robert P. Novicki, D.P.M., F.A.C.F.A.S.*

* Diplomates, American Board of Podiatric Surgery



32 Cherry Street
Milford, CT 06460

Podiatric Medicine and Foot Surgery - (203) 874-6755

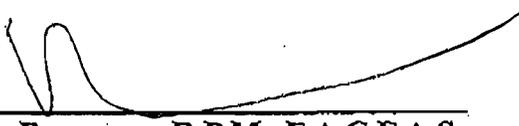
March 6, 2007

Senator Martin M. Looney
11th District
132 Fort Hale Road
New Haven, CT 06512

Dear Mr. Looney:

I understand that the issue of podiatry inclusion in the Title 19 Medicaid Program in the state of Connecticut is coming up for a hearing on Thursday. As you know, I am the Chairman of State Board Podiatry Examiners for state of Connecticut and currently the section chief of podiatric surgery Yale New Haven Hospital and a clinic assistant professor of Orthopedics And Rehabilitation at Yale School Of Medicine. I have been in practice in the state of Connecticut since 1979 and during my 27 years in practice in the state of Connecticut I have been caring for the patient's in the Medicaid system. We have offices at the Hospital Saint Rapheals and run clinics at the physicians building at the Yale New Haven Hospital for the benefit of the citizens of New Haven many of whom are on Title 19. For the past several years, we have been removed from the Medicaid system and the patient's which whom I have treated in the past have simply had to go either to emergency rooms or to family doctors for their foot care. I have, in the past, done pro bono work on diabetic patient's who were over 21 and on Title 19. These are high-risk patients who undergo surgeries for amputations, etc, in an attempt to save their limbs. I believe the time has come that podiatry be placed back into the Medicaid system. We have always been willing to treat the patients in the medicaid system regardless of the low reimbursements, which have been traditionally the case. These patient's need access to good podiatric care in order to prevent amputations and to allow them to be ambulatory so that they can perhaps get employed and come off the welfare roles. I would therefore recommended that the podiatrists be reinstated in the Medicaid Title-19 system in this state of Connecticut for the good of the people of New Haven and as well as all citizens who have Title 19 health insurance.

Kindest regards,


Martin Pressman, D.P.M., F.A.C.F.A.S.
Chairman of State Board Podiatry Examiners State of Connecticut
Clinical Assistant Professor of Orthopedic and Rehabilitation at Yale School of Medicine

David C. Novicki, D.P.M., F.A.C.F.A.S.* • Martin M. Pressman, D.P.M., F.A.C.F.A.S.* • James G. Krantz, D.P.M., F.A.C.F.A.S.*
Robert P. Novicki, D.P.M., F.A.C.F.A.S.*

* Diplomates, American Board of Podiatric Surgery