

Section 902(1) of Public Act 41 of 2001
Health Care Services Contract Payments/Status and
Prisoners Health Care Quality Assessment Report
January 1, 2002

Correctional Medical Services, Inc. (CMS) continues to provide quality services to prisoners and to pay vendors in a timely manner.

Status of Payments: The CMS bill payment cycle is monitored by Department financial experts in the Bureau of Fiscal Management. All clean vendor claims (complete and with authorization codes) are paid within 45 days. Disputed claims (those with missing information or without authorization codes) continue to be handled expeditiously by CMS.

Status of Contract: The contract extends until April 1, 2003.

Assessment of Prisoner Health Care Quality: No inappropriate denials of access to care have been logged and no unresolved issues have been identified regarding the quality of care provided by CMS contract specialists or hospitals. Quality is monitored through several internal mechanisms. The Department has an extensive internal Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI) system in place in health care services. Facility components report to regional components, which are reported to the Central Office. In addition, the Central Office staff includes a position charged with the responsibility of responding to prisoner, family, and legislative concerns, and to monitor litigation involving health care. Investigation of prisoner grievances, family complaints and issues brought to the Department of Corrections by legislators have not revealed any quality problems generated by the CMS referral processes or by its providers.