

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

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

**Status of Payments:** The Department of Corrections (DOC), Bureau of Fiscal Management, has completed its second annual audit as based on suggestions made in the last Auditor General Report. The vast majority of clean vendor claims (complete and with authorization codes) are paid within 45 days. High dollar amount vendors are pre-paid by CMS with adjustments quarterly. 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. The contract is still delivering significant cost savings and has improved the fill rate in physician and mid-level providers serving the Department to above 97%.

**Assessment of Prisoner Health Care Quality:** No denials of access to appropriate 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 DOC by Legislators have not revealed any quality problems generated by the CMS referral process or by its providers.