

EMAIL RESPONSE

Dear Dr. Zakula:

Thank you for your recent email message regarding the Minnesota's Prepaid Medicaid Assistance Project Plus section 1115 Medicaid demonstration. Your note will be helpful in informing our review of the State's request to renew the Demonstration, which was submitted on June 28, 2010. Your letter highlighted your concerns as a dental provider with the health maintenance organizations (HMOs) contracted by the State to provide Medicaid services under the demonstration, specifically in regards to their cost-effectiveness, transparency, accountability, and the quality of care that they provide to Medicaid beneficiaries.

We appreciate your concerns regarding the performance and accountability of the contracted HMOs. These issues are important to the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services' review of any State proposal, whether it is a new demonstration or a renewal of an existing demonstration. Minnesota's proposal is currently under review, and I assure you that we are taking these concerns into consideration during our negotiations with the State.

Thank you again for writing to express your views.