



Tamara Eide, PharmD,  
Supervisor, Idaho Medicaid Pharmacy Unit  
Idaho Department of Health and Welfare, Medicaid Division  
3232 Elder Street  
Boise, Idaho 83705

September 26, 2008

Dear Dr. Eide,

We are pleased to announce that we will be awarding the Idaho Medicaid Pharmacy Program with \$50,000 to support an academic detailing program that offers evidence-based prescribing guidelines for mental health drugs to physicians, nurse practitioners, and physician assistants.

We appreciated the thoughtfulness of your proposal overall, especially the strategic decision to target nurse practitioners (NPs) and physician assistants (PAs), in addition to the physicians who are typically targeted. NPs and PAs are intimately involved in the prescribing process, sometimes with minimal oversight, and increasingly targeted by pharmaceutical industry marketing efforts.

The evaluation plan you proposed was also very thorough and methodical. Our advisor, Jerry Avorn at Harvard Medical School, did however mention that it may be difficult to observe a significant reduction in medication use and adverse events. We can discuss this issue further when we schedule a “kick-off” call prior to launching the project.

Congratulations again on your thoughtful proposal and please let us know which dates would be best to schedule a conference call. We will also be able to answer any questions you have about the administration of the grant.

Sincerely,

Marcia Hams  
Assistant Director  
The Prescription Project