



JIM GIBBONS
Governor

STATE OF NEVADA
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
DIVISION OF HEALTH CARE FINANCING AND POLICY
NEVADA MEDICAID

MICHAEL J. WILLDEN
Director

CHARLES DUARTE
Administrator

October 1, 2008

MEMORANDUM

TO: Michael J. Willden, Director
Department of Health and Human Services

FROM: Charles Duarte, Administrator *Charles Duarte*
Division of Health Care Financing and Policy

RE: Policy Statement on Single Photon Emission Computed
Technology

Nevada Medicaid covers Single Photon Emission Computed Technology (SPECT) for medically necessary indications. At this time, the professional associations and compendia consider the use of SPECT scans not an appropriate clinical procedure to diagnoses psychiatric disorders. The use of this equipment for the purpose of diagnosing psychiatric disorders is considered experimental and therefore not medically necessary. There is also documented concern on the safety of utilizing this procedure and its unknown long term effects on children.

Nevada Medicaid will be modifying the current medical coverage policy to exclude the use of this procedure as a diagnostic tool for psychiatric disorders.