

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Amanda Rutherford** <amandarutherford823@gmail.com>
Date: Mon, Nov 14, 2022 at 12:55 PM
Subject: Fwd: Putting staff and patients at risk
To: Leon Margolin <leon3087@gmail.com>

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Amanda Rutherford** <amandarutherford823@gmail.com>
Date: Mon, Nov 14, 2022 at 12:54 PM
Subject: Putting staff and patients at risk
To: <austin.borbon@coventbridge.com>, <Meghan.Duvall@us.coventbridge.com>

Good time of the day,

My name is Amanda, I am a medical assistant in charge of the record production in Dr. Margolin's office. October 27th we have sent you the email below that described our objective challenges with the record production while maintaining COVID precautions to guarantee the staff and patient safety.

I was shocked that you falsely claimed that we have allegedly failed to produce any records and did not grant us any extension.

I am a single mom of three children. I have a brittle diabetes type 1 with an insulin pump; I was recently discharged from a hospitalization.

You forced me to work over the weekend with other employees and exposed us to unnecessary risk, since you denied us a reasonable extension and unjustly threatened to cut our Medicare payments.

Last year you came out with a ludicrous "educational recommendations" that contradict state and federal requirements for pain management programs. In reality, our records and services are fully compliant and a quantum leap better than many pain practices in the area (see examples attached).

We are well published and presented at the state, national and international levels. It is well known that your main motivation is to get a part of the falsely denied services as a personal bonus while exposing the staff and the vulnerable mostly minority patients to significant risks because of your greed and racial bias.

If I get hurt and hospitalized I will hold you personally responsible, I also added your names to the charts of patients at risk.

This is abusive – please stop and desist immediately.

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От: **Leon Margolin** <leon3087@gmail.com>

Date: ЧТ, 27 ОКТ. 2022 г. В 18:15

Subject: MR#2022 271 53447656 : Update on record production

To: <austin.borbon@coventbridge.com>

Cc: Emily Vincent <vincent@carpenterlipps.com>, <robin.rogers@coventbridge.com>, Joel E. Sechler <sechler@carpenterlipps.com>

Good afternoon,

I am glad to let you know that records have been mailed to CoventBridge (please find the receipt attached) and are scheduled to arrive before November 3d.

Unfortunately, last Tuesday a drug seeking patient attacked staff, verbally harassing them and tried to hit them with a door, breaking the drywall (see attached). Luckily nobody was physically hurt, however some female staff members were shocked and requested time off that may somewhat delay future chart production. We are unfortunately underfunded and don't have funds for a security guard (2 years ago a drug seeking individual hit and tried to choke me and assaulted 2 female staff members)..

We are making a good face effort to accommodate the request for additional records.

As you know, our office still uses paper charting, and the charts that you have requested need to be pulled from our storage area; We had several staff members or themselves or their family members with COVID-19 or considered to be high-risk individuals (such as Diabetes and other medical conditions).

Despite these challenges, we have copied several hundred pages which will be mailed to you by November 3d (see the certified mail receipt enclosed). We have already retrieved some additional charts and we need to copy hundreds of additional pages of records. Once the records are copied we will produce additional records as per your request and the state and federal regulations.

It is clear that additional time is necessary in order to produce the records while maintaining COVID precautions and state regulations and not jeopardizing patient care (as per our previous communications) please kindly call Dr. Margolin at 718-530-5953.

We will keep you updated through this process to the best of our ability and make a good face effort. Thank you for your understanding. If you have any further questions, please feel free to contact us during our normal business hours.

As we mentioned in the past, it is crucial the future auditor who will review the records has knowledge or understanding of the clinical nature of the service we provide and the applicable state and federal regulations (HB-93, PMC cat. 3 regulations, SMBO OAR-4731-21-02 requirements, SMBO and the Ohio Board of Pharmacy, HHS, DEA, and CDC guidelines as above), therefore the recommendations of the auditor may not be compliant with the state and federal laws and regulations and create a serious patient safety concern.

This person should have an understanding of the opioid prescribing and distribution of dangerous substances regulations and rules as per the attached license (Based on Ohio HB 93 law and SMBO and Ohio State Board of Pharmacy (BoPh) regulations), which is the main clinical service of our program.

Many vulnerable patients can be put at a significant risk because if the essential life saving services that we provided mistakenly denied because of financial objectives.

These policies put patients, and society in general at risk and actually increase the health care costs based on evidence based data and expert opinions (see cost efficiency section of the article):

<https://cpmiohio.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/the-final-opioid-screening-article.x16524.pdf>

Opioid epidemic growing like a cancer undermining the very fabric of our society, way beyond the actual mortality and health costs, affecting the crime, and even the military draft:

[Long, slow decline of the US military's all-volunteer force puts America in danger \(msn.com\)](#)

“The fact is the pool of Americans aged 17-24 who are qualified and interested in serving continues to shrink. When I was secretary of the Army in 2018, 71% of these 34 million young people could not meet the military’s entry requirements due mostly to obesity, **drug use, physical and mental health problems, and criminal misconduct.** “

We hope to see Covent Bridge as an ally in this fight rather than an adversary who tries to avoid payments for the appropriate services.

Both CPMI (our practice) and CoventBridge are committed to the Medicare and Medicaid integrity compliance manual. I would like to have a collegial respectful discussion on these and other topics to benefit the care and safety of our mutual patients and insure the proper use of the limited Medicare funds.

Respectfully,
Dr. Margolin/CPMI staff