

Hardee, Amy

From: Jim Polk [jimpolk38@gmail.com]
Sent: Friday, July 27, 2012 10:54 AM
To: Robleto, Michelle
Subject: ensure that rare disease patients receive the specialized care they need within the state's Health Care Exchange

Dear Sir;

I live in Florida and have a rare genetic (inherited) condition that resulted in serious chronic lung disease.

In the development of Florida's State Exchange, please take into consideration and account for those patients who suffer from rare and chronic diseases. These individuals present unique challenges within the health care system, as many rare diseases require expensive, complex and specialized treatments.

Please make sure that the state navigators must understand the unique needs of patients who suffer from rare and chronic conditions in order to provide them with information to fully understand their Quality Health Plan (QHP) options. In addition, the navigators must have adequate training, be trusted sources of information, and adequately represent the populations that are most likely to enroll in the Exchange.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

James M. Polk