POLICY ON OUTSTATE MEDICAID PATIENTS

Approved: April 15, 2008

Purpose

WUSM is committed to meeting the medical needs of our community, including the medical needs of uninsured and underinsured low-income populations. This commitment must be balanced against the needs of WUSM clinical departments to maintain financial viability to assure continued investment in WUSM’s tripartite mission of teaching, research and patient care. The purpose of this policy is to ensure coordination and access to medically necessary specialty care across the WUSM clinical departments. In furtherance of such purpose, this policy outlines the minimum criteria for acceptance of new patients covered under state Medicaid programs other than Missouri.

Policy

1) Departments shall continue to have the option to limit the scheduling of new patients covered under Medicaid programs sponsored by states other than Missouri.

2) Notwithstanding the foregoing, departments shall accept patients covered under Medicaid programs sponsored by states other than Missouri if:
   (i) the patient is directly referred from a full-time WUSM faculty member;
   (ii) the patient is being treated in the emergency department at Barnes-Jewish Hospital or St. Louis Children’s Hospital and a departmental consultation is requested.

3) The foregoing are minimum requirements; departments may adopt more liberal standards for acceptance of patients covered under Medicaid programs sponsored by states other than Missouri.

4) This policy does not apply to patients covered under the Medicaid program sponsored by the State of Missouri.