

It is my belief that insurance companies should not be the deciding body in approving Healthcare coverage for treatment deemed appropriate by an experienced physician for the care of a patient. My experience has resulted in the denial of appropriate care for a family member with recurrent cancer. There has been a delay in care in a situation where timely treatment is essential. Insurance through United Healthcare has resulted in a denial, a need for peer review thus a delay in critical treatment.

In addition, I have worked in healthcare for greater than 45 years in the field of Respiratory Care. I have frequently worked with patients who, in a time when they need to concentrate on healing, are instead dealing with the challenges and control of their insurance coverage and approval process thus adding undue anxiety to their focus on health and wellness.

I ask that the State of Oregon consider putting the patient and their well-being ahead of the bottomline of the insurance company. Allow the physician and patient to determine appropriate and safe care thus reducing undue anxiety at a time when health and healing are crucial.