From: L Shampain

To: <u>E-OHPSCA2713.EBSA</u>

Cc: <u>Ishamp@optonline.net</u>; "Kotsen, Chris Psy.D."

Subject: Eliminate prior authorization requirements for tobacco cessation medications

Date: Thursday, September 16, 2010 1:04:27 AM

I very strongly urge that the requirements for **prior authorization** for smoking cessation medications be completely eliminated. The need for prior authorization is a harmful roadblock which:

- Wastes the valuable time of clinicians
- Creates unnecessary barriers for patients seeking help
- Provides absolutely no benefits it does not increase the safety or efficacy for the patient.

Please eliminate these harmful requirements. Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

Lawrence R. Shampain, MD Board Certified Adult & Child Psychiatrist Metuchen, NJ