



September 10, 2009

**OPINION LETTER**

Rene Zito, Director  
California Department of ADP  
1700 K Street  
Sacramento, CA 95811

Re: Preparations for the H1N1 Pandemic

Director Zito:

We, the PAAG Board, are concerned about the possible interruption of treatment services that may occur due to complications arising from the H1N1 pandemic. In particular, we are worried that our dosing and counseling services will be interrupted, and that Aegis patients will be left with no other treatment alternatives.

We urge the state and county government to call for an immediate meeting for all relevant parties to discuss and develop a contingency plan. The plan may require the granting of special permissions and waivers, which are presently not allowed in Title IX & XXII of the California Health & Safety Code. For example, in the worst-case scenario, it may be necessary that patients be allowed to receive counseling over the phone, and receive medication by courier.

We would therefore like to request that your agency take the lead in this effort, and coordinate the preparations for H1N1 pandemic as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

PAAG Board Members