



**North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services**  
**Division of Public Health • Epidemiology Section**  
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Michael F. Easley, Governor

Carmen Hooker Odom, Secretary

August 19, 2005

Mr. Curt Ellis  
North Carolina Board of Medical Examiners  
Via facsimile 326-1130

Dear Mr. Ellis:

Attached to this letter is a letter and associated documentation from Dr. C. Ben Beard of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. I asked the CDC to provide this letter and documentation following a telephone conversation initiated by the CDC to my office over their concerns regarding the practice of the Jemsek Clinic in Huntersville, NC. Apparently patients are seen from around the country at this clinic for specialized care for Lyme Disease.

My office is responsible for the reporting, surveillance, and control of communicable diseases in North Carolina, including Lyme Disease which is a mandatory physician reported illness in the state (10A NCAC 41A .0101). The CDC documents provided are concerning to the public health as they indicate:

1. Misinformation to patients on the sexual and vertical transmission of Lyme Disease,
2. Reports of prolonged parenteral antibiotic administration, and
3. Use of blood and urine tests that are not considered standard of care.

Because these patients were seen from out of state, it is difficult for my office to trace these activities. Only a federal agency such as the CDC could collect these data. Thank you for your attention to this matter and please let me know if I can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jeffrey Engel".

Jeffrey Engel, M.D.  
State Epidemiologist and Head, General Communicable Disease Control

cc Mr. Chris Hoke, Chief, Legal and Regulatory Affairs, Division of Public Health

