

AAOM Autism Insurance Benefit Meeting Summary-October 1, 2012

Reviewed Guidelines for services provided by Behavior Analyst Certification Board (Available at www.bacb.com)

Meeting Key Points:

- Everything is still a work-in-progress, what is proposed today may not be what actually ends up occurring

Parent workshops that have been done and notes from previous meeting are on AAOM's website. This website is a great resource to answer questions. <http://autismallianceofmichigan.org/>

- Two levels of service: 1. Focused 10-25 hours per week plus supervision, 2. Comprehensive (EIBI) 30-40 hours per week plus supervision
- State is in a "diagnostic crunch." Wait lists at some of the Autism Assessment Centers of Excellence may be up to 18 months. Requiring comprehensive evaluations for those who will be seeking ABA benefit. Same criteria are not needed for Speech and OT benefit. (Appears that will require Medical with ADOS and ADI-R).
- Autism Centers are in application process, not sure who will meet, but must have multidisciplinary team and university and/or hospital affiliation
 - Potential sites and current wait lists
 - Henry Ford (3-4 months but are adding diagnostic days)
 - University of Michigan (18 months)
 - Children's Hospital of Michigan (2 months)
 - Beaumont Hospital (Uncertain)
 - Other potential West Michigan sites that are beginning application process...DeVos Children's, Great Lakes Center in Kalamazoo
- ASD State Plan...restructuring services, looking at ways to expand benefit to those in need such as telemedicine for provider supervision
- With "diagnostic crunch" and limited availability of providers in state families may need to follow a formal appeals process to get services right away, anything more than a 30 day wait suggest that availability/access is an issue and insurances are accountable to provide access to these services (e.g. might need an appeal to request services in interim while waiting on diagnosis). If you already have a provider you can ask insurance to work out a "single case agreement"
- Family should be directed to check on insurance, talk to providers and contact AAOM with questions. Need to know if they are self-funded plan (laws and requirements are different). This is not always the same even within the same company.
- Possibility that Sensory Integration may not be covered under OT Services as it is not an evidence-based treatment
- Medicaid benefit is still in the works. Looking at January 1st as deadline and hoping Michigan will be only state to cover in similar manner to private insurance for all eligible children....not just waivers like other states
 - Will require ADOS and ADI-R by physician or licensed psychologist
 - Another level of testing to evaluate recommended services like ABLLS or VB-MAPP, cognitive
 - Tiered model...high needs 15 hours plus, less intensity 5-15 hours