



5 Steps to Medicaid Behavioral Therapy in Michigan

Coverage of Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) services is provided for Medicaid eligible children under 21 years of age who are diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) and who meet medical necessity criteria.

01

SCREENING

A primary care physician (PCP) should complete an ASD screening and a medical examination. If there are signs of ASD or concerns a referral should be made to the local CMH.

02

REFERRAL

The PCP should contact the local Community Mental Health directly to refer a patient. CMH or a Prepaid Independent Health Provider (PIHP) will contact the child's family or guardian to arrange an intake appointment to determine if further testing is necessary.

03

EVALUATION AND MEDICAL NECESSITY

Coordination for patients needing further testing will be coordinated through the PIHP. The comprehensive diagnostic evaluation which includes an ADOS-2 must be performed before the child receives ABA services. At the conclusion of the evaluation severity and medical necessity is determined.

04

DEVELOP THE PLAN OF CARE

Once a diagnosis of autism is founded, a behavioral assessment is completed. This assessment is utilized to create specific goals and assist in personalized treatment planning. A representative from CHM or the PIHP will coordinate with specific behavioral providers in scheduling the assessment.

05

BEGIN ABA SERVICES

Applied Behavioral Analysis (ABA) services are typically contracted to an outside vendor who specializes in ABA. Providers of ABA are required to report to CMH quarterly to determine ongoing treatment.