

To: MetroPlusHealth Pediatric Primary Care Providers

Re: 2023 Enhanced Children's Benefits

Date: December 22, 2022

Expanded Children's Benefit

MetroPlusHealth has been ramping up for the expansion of services that will become available to children and youth in 2023:

- ✓ **Medicaid:**
 - Applied Behavior Analysis Services will become available January 1, 2023, for eligible Medicaid members under age 21 years of age who are diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder.

- ✓ **Child Health Plus:**
 - **Available in January 2023:**
 - ✓ Coverage for the daily per diem rates of placement for CHP members placed in foster care
 - ✓ CFTSS (Child and Family Treatment Supports and Services)
 - ✓ ACT and Youth ACT Services
 - ✓ Medical Supplies
 - ✓ Orthodontic Services for a Severe Physically Handicapping Malocclusion
 - ✓ Emergency transportation
 - **Available in April 2023**
 - ✓ Coverage for RRSY (Residential Rehabilitation Services for Youth)
 - **Available in July 2023**
 - ✓ Coverage for Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) for members who meet eligibility criteria.

Eligibility Requirements for ABA therapy

- Must have an autism or Rett's diagnosis, made by a NYS qualified healthcare provider (including psychiatrists and developmental/behavioral pediatricians, clinical psychologists).
- Must provide a diagnostic comprehensive autism evaluation that preceded the diagnosis, performed by a NYS licensed clinician. The evaluation should be conducted as outlined in the New York State Department of Health, Clinical Practice Guideline on Assessment, and Intervention Services for Young Children with Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD) 2017 Update.
<https://www.health.ny.gov/publications/20152.pdf>
- Obtain a Medicaid referral from PCP (updated every 2 years)

How to obtain services

- Find a Licensed Behavior Analyst provider on the M+ directory
- Call MetroPlusHealth 1-800-303-9629

For additional guidance, please access this link for more information from New York State: <https://www.emedny.org/ProviderManuals/ABA/index.aspx>

Qualified Health Plan

The Department of Health and Human Services' Risk Adjustment Data Validation Program determines a set of health conditions considered Lifelong Permanent Conditions of which autistic disorders is included. A Lifelong Permanent Condition must be validated and authenticated each benefit year.

Validation and authentication must be provided by a physician, nurse practitioner, licensed clinical social worker, Ph.D. or Psy.D. psychologist each calendar year. The condition must be evaluated and, if present, submitted as an active diagnosis code on a claim. The condition must also be listed in the medical record for the corresponding encounter in any of the following sections:

- Past Medical History
- Problem Lists
- Progress Notes
- Assessment and Plan
- History of Present Illness
- Assessments

Please be advised that Licensed Behavioral Analyst do not meet the practitioner level to authenticate and validate an autism disorder diagnosis. Therefore, ABA providers should coordinate with the members treatment team to assure their diagnosis is authenticated and validated annually.