

1) What insurance company(ies) are reflected in this response?

Mercy Health Plans and
Mercy Health Plans of Missouri, Inc.

2) For Applied Behavior Analysis services/treatment, does the company have specific procedure codes that it would like to be used for billing purposes? Please indicate if any of these codes are limited in time and thus require units of treatment to be specified.

The following codes will be used for Applied Behavioral Analysis/Treatment until such time national codes are adopted by the American Medical Association:

H0031 - 15 minute increments

H0032 – 15 minute increments

H2012 – 1 hour increments

H2019- 15 minute increments

Codes, however, must be billed with a diagnosis of Autism: 299.0-299.01; 299.8-299.81.

3) Of the treatments identified in the law, will the company require precertifications or preauthorizations for any treatments or services (check all that apply):

- a. Psychiatric care; Precertification is required for inpatient and facility-based levels of care.
- b. Psychological care; Preauthorization is required for some services.
- c. Habilitative or rehabilitative care, including applied behavior analysis therapy; ABA therapy will require a new treatment plan every 6 months.
- d. Therapeutic care; Mercy Health Plans will *not* require preauthorization for OT/PT/ST after 4/15/11.
- e. Pharmacy care; Prior authorization may be required depending on the type of medication prescribed, regardless of diagnosis.
- f. Other – Specify: Yes, any related DME >\$1000 requires prior auth.

4) What telephone numbers should providers use to contact the company for precertifications or preauthorizations, if required, for the following treatments or services (please complete for all that are applicable):

- a. Psychiatric care;
- b. Psychological care;
- c. Habilitative or rehabilitative care, including applied behavior analysis therapy;
- d. Therapeutic care;
- e. Pharmacy care;
- f. Other – Specify:

For psychiatric care, psychological care, habilitative or rehabilitative care, including ABA therapy, please contact St. John's Mercy Managed Behavioral Health at 314 729-4600 or 800-413-8008.

For pharmacy, therapeutic (OT/PT/ST *prior* to 4/15/11) and medical care, providers should refer to the appropriate number on the back of the Member's ID card.

- 5) What should a provider do if the patient has already been diagnosed as being in the autism spectrum and is currently undergoing treatments that are now covered under this law?

Providers would need to contact St. John's Mercy Managed Behavioral Health for ongoing ABA therapy or any behavioral health services. Providers would need to contact Mercy Health Plans to discuss any applicable precertification for ongoing medical treatment including OT/PT/ST. Providers may call the number on back of the Member's ID card for any questions.

- 6) Does the company have a specific form that must be used or required elements that must be included when submitting a treatment plan? If so, please attach a sheet detailing such information or provide an internet address where such information can be located.

St. John's Mercy Managed Behavioral Health (SJMMBH) will accept any comprehensive treatment plan document from a provider for review every 6 months. Additionally, SJMMBH does have an Autism Outpatient Treatment Plan that can be utilized by providers. Call SJMMBH Provider Help Line at 314 729-4600 or 1-800-413-8008 to obtain.

- 7) How should a claim with multiple diagnoses (including autism) and services be coded to ensure payment under this mandate?

Service codes related to autism must be accompanied by at least one autism diagnosis code. The autism diagnosis code does not have to be in any particular order or sequence on the claim form. All other services unrelated to autism should be billed with appropriate CPT, HCPCS, and/or diagnosis codes if applicable.

- 8) What are the company's credentialing requirements? Is the company waiving any credentialing requirements for Autism Service Providers or ABA providers?

Behavioral Health and ABA providers may contact St. John's Mercy Managed Behavioral Health (SJMMBH) at 314 729-4600 or 800-413-8008. SJMMBH is credentialing Board Certified Behavioral Analysts (BCBA) who have met all the requirements of the Behavioral Analysis Certification Board (BACB). For other ABA providers, SJMMBH will contract and credential groups who have BCBA's providing supervision and oversight to cover their services.

Information on contracting and credentialing for medical services may be obtained by contacting Mercy Health Plans at "Contact Us", <http://www.mercyhealthplans.com/> Or by calling the Customer Service number on the back of the member's ID card.

- 9) Where can a provider go or call to get more information about contracting with the insurance company? [See above.](#)
- 10) Is there any other information the company would like to share? [Not at this time.](#)