

Bulletin: MSA 10-25

Distribution: Hearing Centers, Audiologists

Issued: July 1, 2010

Subject: Changes in Hearing Aid Standards of Coverage and Documentation Requirements for Unilateral Hearing Loss

Effective: August 1, 2010

Programs Affected: Medicaid, Children's Special Health Care Services (CSHCS)

Prior authorization is required for conventional analog or digital/programmable hearing aids for unilateral hearing loss.

Standards of Coverage

Current policy for Hearing Aid Dealers requires a 90-day trial for these hearing aids for beneficiaries under the age of 21. After the trial period has been completed, providers are required to evaluate the beneficiary to determine that the hearing aid dispensed is performing satisfactorily for the beneficiary. Prior authorization may be requested only after the trial period has been completed.

Documentation Requirements

In addition, letters of support from the classroom teacher, the teacher consultant of the hearing impaired and/or the educational audiologist stating that amplification has been accepted and did enhance auditory skills and learning capacity following the trial must be submitted with the request for prior authorization.

Effective August 1, 2010, these two requirements will no longer be necessary as part of the prior authorization process for hearing aids for unilateral hearing loss.

Manual Maintenance

Retain this bulletin until the information has been incorporated into the Michigan Medicaid Provider Manual.

Questions

Any questions regarding this bulletin should be directed to Provider Inquiry, Department of Community Health, P.O. Box 30731, Lansing, Michigan 48909-8231, or e-mail at ProviderSupport@michigan.gov. When you submit an e-mail, include your name, affiliation, and phone number so you may be contacted if necessary. Providers may phone toll-free 1-800-292-2550.

APPROVED



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