



December 19, 2014

Announcement 849

## **Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) Services for Children with Autism Spectrum Disorder**

On July 7, 2014, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) released guidance (CIB 07-07-2014) on approaches available under the federal Medicaid program for providing medically necessary diagnostic and treatment services to children with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). CMS is not singling out Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) or any other specific treatment in its directive to states, but is indicating the services must be comprehensive and include behavioral intervention.

The Division of Health Care Financing and Policy (DHCFP) is proposing coverage for ABA services for categorically needy individuals under age 21, identifying Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic and Treatment (EPSDT) as the coverage authority.

Please see the [Third Quarter 2014 Nevada Medicaid and Nevada Check Up News](#) provider newsletter for details. Future newsletters and web announcements will provide additional information regarding the medical coverage policy development for ABA services, including the prior authorization requirements and billing instructions, as the implementation date approaches. Newsletters and web announcements are posted on the [Providers Announcements/Newsletters](#) webpage at [www.medicaid.nv.gov](http://www.medicaid.nv.gov).