



Department of  
Medicaid

John R. Kasich, Governor  
Barbara R. Sears, Director

**Managed Care Plan Policy Guidance Letter No. 2-18-06**

**To: Medicaid Managed Care Plans and MyCare Ohio Plans**

**From: Roxanne Richardson, Chief  
Office of Managed Care, Program and Policy Development Section**

**Date: June 15, 2018**

**Subject: Autism Services**

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There are many Medicaid services available to individuals diagnosed with an autism spectrum disorder (ASD) to address their care needs. Managed Care Plans (MCPs) must cover all services for individuals under age 21 diagnosed with an ASD as medically necessary.

**ASD Treatments** can improve physical and mental development and are categorized as:

- Behavioral and communication approaches including but not limited to clinical therapeutic intervention
- Dietary approaches
- Medications
- Complementary and alternative medicine

**Other Services Provided by Ohio Medicaid Currently for Individuals with an ASD Diagnosis:**

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Physician services</li><li>• Private duty nursing</li><li>• Rehabilitative services</li></ul>                                     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Home health</li><li>• Medical equipment and supplies</li><li>• Vision hearing and dental services</li></ul>                                |
| <p>Therapy Services</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Physical therapy</li><li>• Occupational therapy</li><li>• Speech therapy</li></ul>                        | <p>Preventative Services</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Administering immunizations</li><li>• Screening for disease</li><li>• Preventative group counseling</li></ul> |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Diagnostic, screening, preventative and corrective services for individuals with speech, hearing and language disorders</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Respite for children in managed care</li><li>• OLP services (APRN, LISW, Psychologists, etc.)</li></ul>                                    |

**Applied Behavioral Analysis**

Under ORC 1751.84 <http://codes.ohio.gov/orc/1751.84> MCPs must cover clinical therapeutic intervention including applied behavioral analysis (ABA). The MCPs must also provide ABA and other ASD treatments when medically necessary under the EPSDT benefit.