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TennCare Parent Agreement

For a child to receive Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) services through TennCare certain medical necessity guidelines must be met. These guidelines include:

1. A severe challenging behavior (such as self injury, aggression towards others, destruction of property, stereotyped/repetitive behaviors, elopement, severe disruptive behaviors) that present a health or safety risk to self or others; OR
1. A severe challenging behavior not generally seen a age or developmentally congruent (such as biting in a 2 to 4 year old, temper tantrums) that significantly interferes with home and community activities; AND
2. Less intensive behavioral therapy or other medical treatment has not been sufficient to reduce interfering behaviors, to increase pro-social behaviors, or to maintain desired behaviors.

After it is established that a child meets the medical necessity guidelines to receive ABA therapy, a number of weekly hours will be proposed to effectively address the challenging behaviors. The child's progress will be assessed at the end of each authorization period (typically every 3 months). For services to continue, the data must reflect measurable changes in frequency, intensity, and/or duration of the specific behavior of interest. If the child shows no meaningful measurable changes for a period of 3 months of treatment, then ABA will no longer be considered medically necessary. For changes to be "meaningful" they must be durable over time beyond the actual treatment session, and generalized outside of the treatment setting (i.e. to the child's home, school, community). Documentation of meaningful changes must be kept and made available for continued authorization of treatment. The treatment should include caregiver training regarding identification of specific behavior(s) and interventions, in order to support utilization of the ABA techniques by caregivers.

The above is paraphrased directly from the TennCare Medical Necessity Guidelines for ABA. To successfully meet these guidelines, we have put into place what we call Parent Support.

Parent Support consists of :

1. Meeting with a therapist on a regular basis (as determined by the number of therapy hr/week).
2. Observing and/or being part of your child's sessions on a regular basis.
3. Tracking data in environments outside of the therapy session daily.
4. Turning in this collected data on a weekly basis.

When your child starts our program, you will also be paired up with a therapist who will meet with you on a regular basis, train you in correct implementation of ABA procedures specific to your child, and teach and provide you support with tracking data. These are guidelines that we must follow to be in compliance with TennCare and continue to provide your child with quality services to best meet your child's needs. If these requirements are not met, your child's therapy hours may be cut and/or services may cease. **By signing below, I attest that I understand the above TennCare Parent Agreement in its entirety.**

Child's Name: _____ Parent's Printed Name: _____

Parent's Signature: _____ Date: _____