

Speech Therapy Prior Authorization Questions & Answers Meeting

November 2023

Purpose

- To answer questions related to the 2023 Long Bill change requiring speech therapy prior authorization after 12 sessions

Agenda

- Department Introductions
- Meeting Logistics
- Mission, Roles, & Commitments
- Questions & Answers
- What's Next
- Resources

Meeting Logistics

- Participation
- IT support
- Meeting recording & materials



Our Mission:

Improving health care equity, access and outcomes for the people we serve while saving Coloradans money on health care and driving value for Colorado.

Department Introductions

- Jami Gazerro, Policy Development & Implementation Section Manager
- Devinne Parsons, Outpatient Speech Therapy Policy Specialist
- Cameron Amirfathi, Alternative Benefit Plan Policy Specialist
- Sarah Stoppel, Health Information Business Analyst
- Valerie Carter, Nurse Navigator

Department's Role

- Keep the meeting on track with time and scope
- Provide policy and program information related to the process
- Answer questions

We Commit to Stakeholders

The Department will:

- Thoroughly and thoughtfully evaluate all questions and feedback.
- Identify what feedback can be incorporated now or potentially in the future.
- Transparently communicate the outcomes of feedback and questions.
- Refer individuals to appropriate Department resources for out-of-scope topics.

Long Bill Changes

Long Bill 2023

- Added as a footnote in the Long Bill:

Speech therapy – An increase of \$669,529 total funds, including \$328,070 General Fund, to allow 12 sessions of speech therapy before requiring prior authorization review.

Expected Implementation Date

- System changes will be implemented in December 2023



Questions?



Next Steps

- Thoroughly and thoughtfully evaluate feedback
- Follow-up if there are any outstanding questions or comments
- Provide updates in Provider Bulletins

Resources

- Questions regarding Prior Authorization Requests (PAR) or the PAR process:
 - Utilization Management team at hcpf_um@state.co.us
- All claims and portal questions:
 - Gainwell at 1-844-235-2387
- Speech Therapy policy questions:
 - Devinne Parsons at devinne.parsons@state.co.us

Thank you!