The Medicaid Autism Benefit: Tools and resources to manage the applied behavior analysis benefit

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Objectives:
Identify effective methods for the practical application of concepts related to improving the delivery of services for persons with developmental disabilities at the level of the state.

Notes:
DWMHA: The Medicaid Autism Benefit

Agenda:
1. Autism Overview
2. The Medicaid Autism Benefit
3. Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA)
4. Care Coordination & Crisis/Safety Support
5. Autism Resources
6. Questions

Statistics on Autism:

- Global Statistics:
  - 67 million affected worldwide (IACC, July 2012)

- National Statistics:
  - 1 in 68 children (CDC)
  - Boys 4-5 times more likely to be diagnosed than girls

- Wayne County Statistics:
  - Approximately 7,358 individuals age 0 to 20 years old in Wayne County with ASD (U.S. Census Bureau, 2011)

What is Autism?

- Restricted repertoire of interests and behaviors
- Stereotyped behavior
- Repetitive movements with objects
- Lack of appropriate play
- Lack of response to name
- Lack of social smiling
- Lack of engagement with a variety of toys
- Lack of response to contextual cues
- Lack of communicative vocalizations with caregivers

DSM-5 criteria for ASD

- Social communication and social interaction
  - Social-emotional reciprocity
  - Nonverbal communicative behaviors developing and maintaining relationships
  - Restricted repertoire of interests and behaviors
  - Stereotyped behavior
  - Repetitive movements with objects
  - Lack of appropriate play
  - Lack of response to name
  - Lack of social smiling
  - Lack of engagement with a variety of toys
  - Lack of response to contextual cues
  - Lack of communicative vocalizations with caregivers

Red Flags of Autism Spectrum Disorders and Developmental Delays in the Second Year of Life

ASD Red Flags
- Lack of social smiling
- Lack of engagement with a variety of toys
- Lack of response to contextual cues

ASD & DD Red Flags
- Lack of social smiling
- Lack of engagement with a variety of toys
- Lack of response to contextual cues
- Lack of communicative vocalizations with caregivers
What is Applied Behavior Analysis?

“Applied Behavior Analysis is the process of systematically applying interventions based upon the principles of learning theory to improve socially significant behaviors to a meaningful degree, and to demonstrate that the interventions employed are responsible for the improvement in behavior.”

ABA uses positive reinforcement to increase more positive behaviors & social interactions & decrease inappropriate behaviors.

The Medicaid Autism Benefit

What is Applied Behavior Analysis?

For Example Continued:

1. ABA for Teens and Young Adults looks different from our early intervention:
   1. Teen and Young Adult should be part of the ABA Program Delivery
   2. Focus on Socialization and Independent Community Living:
      1. Puberty
      2. Hygiene
      3. Peer Pressure
   4. Physical / Behavioral Issues
      https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EdjxwQ88tGg
      https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SZbq051DgTQ

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Co-morbid Conditions:

- Up to 70% of ASD cases have been reported as also having intellectual disabilities
- 1/3 of individuals with Autism also have epilepsy
- Approximately 10% of children with Autism have down syndrome, fragile X, tuberous sclerosis, or other genetic and chromosomal disorders
- Approximately 10% of children with Autism have a co-occurring psychiatric diagnosis

What is Applied Behavior Analysis?

For Example:

1. Teach skills to replace problem behaviors.
   So your child can learn what "to do," not just what "to stop doing."

2. Increase positive behavior and reduce interfering behavior.
   For example, reinforcement procedures increase on-task behavior or social interactions and reduce behaviors like self-injury or tantrums.

3. Maintain behaviors.
   For example: Teaching self-control and self-monitoring procedures to maintain and generalize job-related social skills.

4. Change responses to your child’s behavior.
   These responses could unintentionally be rewarding problem behavior.
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Eligibility

Private Insurance
&
Public Insurance
&
Educational Supports

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How to Access ABA?

1. The Medicaid Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) Benefit rolled out April 1, 2013 as an early intervention service and covered ABA for individuals with ASD ages 18 months to 6 years of age (1,008 served)

2. The Medicaid ASD Benefit expansion became effective January 1, 2016 and now covers ABA for individuals with ASD ages 0-20 years of age (952 served)

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ASD Benefit Expansion

What are the eligibility criteria?

1. Individual is under 21 years of age.
2. Individual is covered by Medicaid
3. Individual received a diagnosis of ASD from a qualified licensed practitioner utilizing valid evaluation tools.
4. Individual is medically able to benefit from the BHT treatment.
5. Treatment outcomes are expected to result in a generalization of adaptive behaviors across different settings to maintain the BHT interventions and that they can be demonstrated beyond the treatment sessions. Services are able to be provided in the child’s home and community, including centers and clinics.

What are the eligibility criteria?

1. Symptoms cause clinically significant impairment in social, occupational, and/or other important areas of current functioning that are fundamental to maintain health, social inclusion, and increased independence.
2. Services must be based on the individual child and the parent/guardian’s needs and must consider the child’s age, school attendance requirements, and other daily activities as documented in the IPOS. Families of minor children are expected to provide a minimum of eight hours of care per day on average throughout the month.

What Services are Covered?

a. Comprehensive Diagnosis Evaluation & Re-Evaluation (Annually)
b. Behavioral Assessment (Bi-Annually)
c. ABA Behavior Plan of Service
d. Parent/Guardian Training (As Medically Necessary)
e. Direct Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) Services (As Medically Necessary; Average 5-25 hours/week)
f. Behavior Technician Observation & Direction (Staff Supervision from Behaviorist during treatment) (10% - As Medically Necessary)
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**Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) Treatment:**
- In-Home or Center-based
- Individual and Group Interventions
- 5-25 hours of Direct ABA per Week
- Parent / Guardian Training
- ABA Behavior Assessments

**DWMHA**

The DWMHA Network

- DWMHA Direct Contracts with 12 Autism Benefit Service Providers
- Served approximately 2,500 individuals since March 2013
- 964 Individuals are currently open and enrolled in the ASD Benefit in DWMHA
- Approximately 90 BCAs/ BCaBAs/ Qualified Behaviorists
**Overview**

The DWMHA Autism Benefit:

1. Autism Care Coordination Training
   - Curriculum includes 8 hours of training content:
     1. Autism Overview
     2. Applied Behavior Analysis Overview
     3. ASD Family Support Needs
     4. ASD Benefit Overview
     5. ASD Benefit Requirement Overview

2. New Autism Provider Orientation
   - Curriculum includes 6 hours of training content (Additional 3 hour DWMHA Medicaid Orientation Provided & Training Requirements):
     1. ASD Benefit Training
     2. EMR System Training
     3. Authorization & Claims Submission Training
     4. Denial & Appeal Training
     5. MDHHS Web System Training
     6. Quality Management & Case Monitoring Training

**Staffing & Training**

**Autism Care Coordination**

- Individualized Plan of Service Case Holder
  (Supports Coordinator, Case Manager, IMH Therapist, Home-based Therapist, etc.)
- Other Auxiliary Services
  (Supplier, OT, PT, school personnel, etc.)
- Qualified Licensed Professional & ASD Benefit Behaviorist
- Behavior Technician
  (16 years old or specific training)
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Autism Crisis & Safety Support

DWMHA received a Health Innovation Grant from the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services in 2016
- Partnered with the Autism Alliance of Michigan (AAOM) for:
  - Development of an Autism Crisis & Safety Planning Kit
  - Delivery of 3 Autism Crisis Trainings to the network

Autism Resources
The DWMHA VCE Online Website:

- Autism Topics on the VCEonline.org Website: https://www.vceonline.org/VideoLibrary/Category.aspx?VLGUID={BBDA8B7-5EB3-4D14-AE78-7F1C46E8067E}
- Online Training Videos
- Registration for Live Events

DWMHA Autism Resources

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Autism Crisis & Safety Support

1. Autism Crisis & Safety Planning Kit
   https://autismallianceodmichigan.org/project/safety-kit/
   - Family Emergency Plan
   - I Have Autism Please Help Me! Card
   - Tip for Interaction Card
   - Autism Alert Sign for Car Seat
   - Common Behaviors and Responses Form
   - List of Local & National Resources
   - Communication Board
   - Autism Profile & Emergency Contact Form
   - Plastic Folder
2. 3 Trainings provided to approximately 300 individuals
3. 1,000 Autism Crisis & Safety kits distributed to our network of professional staff

Autism Resources
The DWMHA Website:

- Autism Resources on the DWMHA Website: http://www.dwmha.com/programs-services/autism/
  - Consumer Documents
  - Provider Documents
  - Bulletins
  - Monthly Log
    - Disenrollments, Transfers, Re-evaluations, etc.
  - Provider WSA Statistic Monitoring & Dashboard Reporting
    - Performance Indicator Monitoring
  - Cube/EMR Data Monitoring