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TRICARE
MANAGEMENT ACTIVITY

OD

CHANGE 136
6010.51-M
FEBRUARY 27, 2012

**PUBLICATIONS SYSTEM CHANGE TRANSMITTAL
FOR
TRICARE OPERATIONS MANUAL (TOM), AUGUST 2002**

The TRICARE Management Activity has authorized the following addition(s)/revision(s).

CHANGE TITLE: EXTENSION OF THE AUTISM SERVICES DEMONSTRATION PROJECT FOR TRICARE BENEFICIARIES UNDER THE EXTENDED CARE HEALTH OPTION (ECHO)

CONREQ: 15809

PAGE CHANGE(S): See page 2.

SUMMARY OF CHANGE(S): This change implements a two-year extension of the Department of Defense (DoD) Enhanced Access to Autism Services Demonstration Project under the ECHO for beneficiaries diagnosed with an Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). Under the demonstration, the Department implemented a provider model that allows reimbursement for Intensive Behavioral Interventions services, in particular, Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA), rendered by providers who are not otherwise eligible for reimbursement.

EFFECTIVE AND IMPLEMENTATION DATE: March 15, 2012.

Reta M. Michak
Director, Operations Division

ATTACHMENT(S): 2 PAGES
DISTRIBUTION: 6010.51-M

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CHAPTER 20

Section 9, pages 13 and 14

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11.0. ADDITIONAL MCSC RESPONSIBILITIES

The MCSC shall:

11.1. Consider and advise beneficiaries of the availability of community based or funded programs and services, when authorizing Demonstration benefits.

11.2. Maintain all documents related to the Demonstration in accordance with [Chapter 2](#).

11.3. Forward to the "gaining" MCSC all Demonstration related documents within 10 calendar days of being notified that a beneficiary is transferring to a location under the jurisdiction of another MCSC.

11.4. Review the beneficiary's BP prior to authorizing Demonstration services.

NOTE: The Functional Behavioral Assessment and Analysis specified in [paragraph 9.1.1](#) will be authorized by the MCSC prior to development of the BP.

11.5. Conduct annual audits on at least 20% of each ACSP's EIA Tutors for compliance with the requirements specified in [paragraph 5.3](#). Upon determining non-compliance with one or more EIA Tutor qualification requirements, the MCSC will immediately initiate a compliance audit of all EIA Tutors employed by or contracted with that ACSP.

12.0. APPLICABILITY

12.1. This Demonstration is limited to TRICARE beneficiaries who meet the requirements specified in [paragraph 6.0](#).

12.2. This Demonstration is limited to the 50 United States and the District of Columbia.

12.3. All provisions of the ECHO program apply to the Demonstration unless specifically modified by the Federal Register Demonstration Notice (72 FR 68130, December 4, 2007) or by this Section.

13.0. EXCLUSIONS

TRICARE will not cost-share:

13.1. Training of EIA Tutors as specified in [paragraph 5.3.1](#).

13.2. Charges for program development, administrative services, and the assessment required for developing the EPR and updating the BP.

13.3. More than one Enhanced Access to Autism Services Demonstration service provided to the same beneficiary during the same time period, such as is the case of the supervision of the Tutor specified in [paragraph 5.3.2](#).

13.4. Training of parents specified in [paragraph 7.1.4](#).

14.0. EFFECTIVE DATE

This Demonstration is effective for claims for services provided in accordance with this Section during the period March 15, 2008 through March 14, 2014.