

Hearing Aid Update

This article is to clarify the process of obtaining Hearing Aids for enrolled Medicaid beneficiaries.

Dispensing Validation System-

DVS authorizations must be obtained as noted in the July 2008 and January 2009 Medicaid Updates. Failure to obtain the necessary DVS authorization(s) may result in denial of payment to the vendor. If a vendor is unable to obtain a DVS authorization due to frequency limits, a paper prior approval may be submitted with the appropriate documentation for review by the Department.

Dispensing Fees-

Please be advised that Dispensing Fees should not be billed (nor should authorization be obtained) until the day of dispensing. Billing of a dispensing fee prior to dispensing the hearing aid is an unacceptable practice under the Medicaid Program.

Binaural Hearing Aids for Medicaid enrolled beneficiaries 21 and over-

Prior approval requests must be submitted on paper using a binaural code. Vendors cannot obtain a DVS authorization for a monaural hearing aid and then submit on paper for a second aid.

Documentation-

Under Medicaid Regulation 18 NYCRR 513.4 (c) the ordering practitioner and potential provider are responsible for assuring that, in their best professional judgment, the ordered and requested medical, dental and remedial care, services or supplies will meet the recipient's medical needs; reduce the recipient's physical or mental disability; restore the recipient to his or her best possible functional level; or improve the recipient's capacity for normal activity; and that they are necessary to prevent, diagnose, correct or cure a condition in light of the recipient's specific circumstances and the recipient's functional capacity to make use of the requested care, services or supplies.

For further information on the Hearing Aid process please see the following Medicaid Update Articles (January 2009, July 2008) at:

http://www.health.state.ny.us/health_care/medicaid/program/update/main.htm

For information on obtaining prior approval visit:

http://www.emedny.org/ProviderManuals/HearingAid/PDFS/HearingAid_PA_Guidelines.pdf for call the eMedNY Call Center at (800) 343-9000.

Questions on coverage criteria may be referred to the Division of Provider Relations and Utilization Management at (800) 342-3005. Option #1