Autism Services

Health and Human Services Commission Rider 32, Article II, HB 1, 86th Legislative Session
Highlights

- Policy Approach
- Implementation Plan
- Stakeholder Engagement Opportunities
- Moving Forward
Autism Services Policy

• Incorporation of Applied Behavioral Analysis (ABA) including Intensive Behavioral Intervention (IBI) into existing service packages for:
  Children & Youth (Birth through age 20)
  With a diagnosis of Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD)

• Service to be delivered in:
  Home
  Community
  Clinic Settings
Autism Services Policy

• Utilization of a interdisciplinary model of care including individual & legal guardian
• Also including, but not limited to, the following disciplines:
  Physical Therapy
  Occupational Therapy
  Speech Therapy
  Outpatient Behavioral Health Services
Implementation Plan

- New Medicaid Benefit
  - Establish payment rate
  - Public rate hearing: November 22, 2019
  - Seek approval from Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), as needed
- Draft Policy for Public Comment
  - Post in September 2019
  - Ensure sign up for GovDelivery
- Implementation goal: Spring 2020
Stakeholder Engagement

HHSC plans on engaging external and internal stakeholders throughout the implementation process. Stakeholders include:

- Parents/Caregivers/Legal Guardians
- Provider groups
- Children’s advocacy organizations
- Other interested parties
Opportunities

1. Advisory Committee Presentations
   • The Texas Autism Council, August 9, 2019
   • The State Medicaid Managed Care Advisory Committee, August 13, 2019
   • The Policy Council for Children and Families, August 23, 2019

2. Public Comment on Policy
   • September 2019

3. Public Rate Hearing
   • November 22, 2019
Moving Forward

Next Steps

• Policy Research & Development
• Consolidating Comments
• System Changes
• Implementation
Thank you

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