

Read Me First - Mississippi Medicaid and MCO's

Medicaid Requirements

1. Certificate of Medical Necessity (CMN)- Health Systems of Mississippi

All sections must be completed in full to include:

- The date the client was last seen by the physician should be noted on the form, which must be within the last 6 months.
- The client's height and weight must be included.
- The physician's name and Medicaid provider number or state license number need to be listed.
- Both a medical and speech diagnosis should be included in the diagnosis section.
- The specific SGD and language configuration (e.g. Unity, Essence, UNIDAD), any accessories, and the speech therapy schedule (e.g. speech therapy 2x/week for 12 weeks) should be listed in the Physician Order section.
- The estimated length of need (listed below the diagnosis section) should be "99".
- The first three questions indicating that the completed evaluation and recommendations
 are provided by a licensed speech-language pathologist, the patient's ability to
 communicate using speech and/or writing is insufficient for communication purposes, and
 the patient is mentally, emotionally, and physically capable of operating/using an ACD
 should all be answered "yes".
- The last question regarding a trial should be answered "D/does not apply".
- Must be completed and signed by a physician who is a pediatrician, neurologist or a physician specializing in physical rehabilitation and who has documented training in assessment for the prescription of a Speech Generating Device (SGD). This form cannot be signed by a nurse practitioner, or physician assistant, as indicated on the form. This form is valid for 90 days from the physician's signature.

2. Office Notes

All Medicaid plans require a complete copy of the office notes from the face-to-face office visit with the doctor. The visit must have occurred within the last 6 months and must document the reason a communication device is needed.

3. AAC Evaluation Report

An AAC evaluation must be performed by a qualified speech language pathologist. **The AAC evaluation report is valid for 6 months.** A written copy of the AAC evaluation report and recommendations must be shared with the physician and submitted with the request for

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approval. An SGD may be covered when all the following criteria have been addressed in the evaluation report:

- A. The AAC evaluation report must include a training schedule(s) with long- and short-term goals.
- B. The AAC evaluation report must include a statement regarding the specific amount of time (years and months) traditional therapy has been conducted and has not proven to be an effective treatment method.
- C. The AAC evaluation report must state why three no-tech/low-tech communication systems were ruled out as other non-SGD approaches: specifically sign language, PECS, and a low-tech device such as a GoTalk20+.
- D. The AAC evaluation report must include why an iPad with an app was ruled out and justify how and why two other SGD's (not an iPad or low-tech device such as a GOTalk20+) were considered and ruled inappropriate.
- E. To ensure that all other insurance required components are included in the AAC evaluation report it is highly recommended that the writing toolkit in the client's funding application on the funding portal be used to generate the report. Please visit www.aacfunding.com for more information.

Additional Medicaid Managed Care Plans (MCO's) Requirements per plan

Molina Medicaid Requirements

- 1. Physician must co-sign the AAC evaluation report.
- 2. Molina's specific Certificate of Medical necessity form must be signed within 6 months of the most recent office visit. This is only valid for 90 days from the date the MD signs.

Magnolia Medicaid Requirements

AAC evaluation report must include the following statement: "_____ (client's name) does not have access to a personal computer, laptop, personal digital assistant or other mobile technology for communication purposes."

United Healthcare Medicaid Requirements

A three-month trial using an SGD, or the recommended vocabulary must be conducted. The trial does not need to be preauthorized, but the specific dates the trial was conducted must be listed in the AAC evaluation report. For example: 05/01/2024 - 08/01/2024

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