



State of New Jersey
Department of Human Services
Division of Medical Assistance & Health Services

NEWSLETTER

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TO: All Dental Providers, for action
Health Maintenance Organizations, for information

SUBJECT: Prior Authorization: Behavior Management Procedure Code

EFFECTIVE: November 19, 1997

BACKGROUND: The Division of Medical Assistance and Health Services is reestablishing Prior Authorization in connection with dental Procedure Code 09920, Behavior Management.

The Dental Services Manual describes procedure code 09920, Behavior Management, established for Medicaid dentists who treat beneficiaries with disabilities which may require an excessive amount of the provider's time to accomplish treatment, such as mental retardation or neurological disorders. (Until 1991, any use of this procedure code required prior authorization by the Dental Services Unit. In 1991, the prior authorization requirement was removed for fewer than four 15-minute units.)

The Division is now reinstating prior authorization for all billings for procedure code 09920.

ACTION: Effective for services rendered on or after November 19, 1997, the Division will not reimburse any dental behavior management procedures unless they have been prior authorized by the Bureau of Dental Services. Providers should submit the request form, MC-10A, Request for Prior Authorization, Rev 9-91, for Procedure Code 09920, Behavior Management, to the Division of Medical Assistance and Health Services, Dental Claims Review Unit, Unit Mail Code No. 21, P.O. Box 713, Trenton, N.J. 08625-0713.

Under Section 20, Remarks, enter the beneficiary's disability which necessitates the use of the behavior management procedure code.

Requests for prior authorization which lack the specification of the beneficiary's disability in Section 20 will be denied. Claims for Procedure Code 09920 rendered on or after November 19, 1997, which have not been prior authorized will also be denied.

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