

## **Addendum to the minutes from July 13, 2007**

### **Alabama Autism Task Force Healthcare Sub Committee**

The **goals** of the healthcare sub committee as outlined at the July 13, 2007 meeting are:

1. Investigate current private and public insurance reimbursement for diagnosis and treatment of Autism Spectrum Disorders. Identify improvements that may be made to the current reimbursement procedures, i.e., insurance coverage for diagnosis, insurance coverage for treatment, and exclusion criteria for coverage.
2. Related to goal number 1, investigate the exclusion of ASD treatment by private and public insurance. Make recommendations regarding the statewide inclusion of ASD services in current insurance reimbursement procedures.

3. Make recommendations regarding the intake and diagnostic procedures that are used by the healthcare and mental healthcare system statewide. Specifically, make recommendations for improving the screening, diagnosis and referral processes currently in place. Delineate, for insurance purposes, a screening diagnosis as compared to a thorough diagnosis by a mental health care professional.
4. Identify improvements in the quality and number of services available for individuals affected by ASD statewide.
5. Investigate rural Alabama access to diagnosis and treatment of ASD. Make recommendations accordingly.
6. Make recommendations regarding the funding of statewide standards of care in diagnoses and treatment of ASD.
7. Investigate services provided for and insurance reimbursement for diagnosis or treatment of a diagnosis of autism as compared to a diagnosis of Asperger's Syndrome.

This list may be revised as the work of the sub committee of the task force continues.

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