

Chapter 7

AUTHORIZATION GUIDELINES

CMDP has established a Quality Management/Performance Improvement (QM/PI) program to monitor, evaluate, and improve the continuity, quality, accessibility, and availability of health care services provided to all its members. The program is designed to assess members' care, delivery systems, and satisfaction while optimizing members' health outcomes and managing medical resources. QM/PI activities are integrated with other systems, processes, and programs throughout the health plan and the child welfare system.

The QM/PI program is responsible for the development of authorization guidelines and policies related to quality management. Whenever possible, CMDP adopts authorization guidelines from national organizations known for their expertise in the area of concern. Links are available on the CMDP website, <https://dcs.az.gov/cmdp>.

Authorization guidelines are used to determine when services meet the definition of medical necessity. The guidelines govern decision-making on prior authorization requests. Subjects of current authorization guidelines include but are not limited to:

- Circumcision
- Use of human growth hormone in children
- Considerations for wart removal
- Vision therapy
- Criteria for the determination of medically necessary orthodontia
- Criteria for extraction of third molars
- Allergy testing via skin prick testing
- Sensory and auditory integration training and facilitated communication for children with autism
- Cranial banding (Cranial Orthosis)
- Myringotomy and Tympanostomy tube insertion
- Pediatric procedural sedation
- Synagis administration
- Physical, occupational, or speech therapy services
- Consults by developmental/behavioral pediatricians
- Frenectomy indications for Ankyloglossia
- Genetic testing
- Medical marijuana
- Behavioral Health Facilities: (inpatient admission to BH hospital, BHIF, BHRF, HCTC, BIP)
- These guidelines are available under Prior Authorization on the CMDP Provider Services webpage, <https://dcs.az.gov/cmdp/providers>.
- The Behavioral Health Information Tool Kits discussing ADHD, depression, and anxiety, are available under the Behavioral Health Information Tool Kits tab on the CMDP Provider Services webpage, <https://dcs.az.gov/cmdp/providers>.