

# Autism Amendment

## Neighborhood Health Partnership, Inc.

As described in this Amendment, the Group Service Agreement and its handbook are modified to include coverage for Autism Spectrum Disorder. This Amendment only applies to Group Service Agreements issued to Large Employers.

Because this Amendment reflects changes in requirements of law of the State of Florida, to the extent it may conflict with any Amendment issued to you previously, the provisions of this Amendment will govern.

Because this Amendment is part of a legal document (the Group Service Agreement), we want to give you information about the document that will help you understand it. Certain capitalized words have special meanings. We have defined these words in the *Group Service Agreement* in *Article I: Definitions* and in this Amendment below.

1. The following definitions are added to *Article I - Definitions*:

**Applied Behavior Analysis** - the design, implementation and evaluation of environmental modifications, using behavioral stimuli and consequences to produce socially significant improvement in human behavior, including, but not limited to, the use of direct observation, measurement and functional analysis of the relations between environment and behavior.

**Autism Spectrum Disorder** - any of the following disorders as defined in the most recent edition of the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders of the American Psychiatric Association:

- Autistic disorder,
- Asperger's syndrome,
- Pervasive developmental disorder not otherwise specified.

2. Paragraph BB in *Article V - Medical, Surgical and Related Services* is replaced as follows:

**BB. OUTPATIENT REHABILITATION AND THERAPIES.** Outpatient physical, respiratory, speech, cardiac or occupational therapies for purposes of rehabilitation due to an acquired illness or injury that are expected to result in significant improvement within 2 months of the start of treatment are covered. In no event will the maximum benefit exceed 60 visits per Calendar Year for all outpatient therapy services combined. Multiple therapies received on the same day will be counted as one visit for each therapeutic discipline received. Speech therapy for *Autism Spectrum Disorder* is also covered. **Note:** The visit limit does not apply to therapies for *Autism Spectrum Disorder*.

3. Benefits are added to *Article V - Medical, Surgical and Related Services for Autism Spectrum Disorder* as follows:

Benefits are provided for Covered Health Services for Enrolled Dependents under 18 years of age or an Enrolled Dependent 18 years or older who is in high school who was diagnosed at 8 years of age or younger with Autism Spectrum Disorder. Benefits are provided for the generally recognized services listed below when provided under a treatment plan prescribed by the treating Physician.

- Well-baby and well-child screening for diagnosing the presence of Autism Spectrum Disorder.
- Applied Behavior Analysis when provided by an individual certified pursuant to s. 393.17 or an individual licensed under chapter 490 or chapter 491.
- Speech therapy.
- Occupational therapy.

- Physical therapy.

**Note:** Any visit limits for *Outpatient Rehabilitation and Therapies* do not apply to *Autism Spectrum Disorder*.

Effective Date of this Amendment: [May 2011]



Chief Executive Officer

(Name and Title)

Neighborhood Health Partnership, Inc.