

New Law Reconfirms Health Insurance Must Cover Autism Treatment

The California Department of Insurance reminds consumers a new law took effect July 1, 2012 mandating health insurers to cover behavioral health treatment for autism. This new law reconfirms provisions of California's Mental Health Parity Act.

Know Your Rights To Autism Treatment:

- Every health insurance contract that provides hospital, medical, or surgical benefits must also
 provide coverage for behavioral health treatment (BHT) for pervasive developmental disorder or
 autism. BHT includes Applied Behavioral Analysis (ABA) and other evidence-based therapies to
 treat autism.
- Every health insurer must maintain an adequate network that includes qualified autism service providers.
- The treatment plan must be prescribed by a licensed physician, surgeon or developed by a licensed psychologist. Start by working with your child's Primary Care Provider to learn about appropriate services.

