

# Magellan Autism Connections®

*A one-of-a-kind solution*

## Demands facing health plans

More and more individuals are being identified with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). No health plan is immune from the increasing costs of ASD coverage driven by state mandates. As treatment demand grows, so do clinical, quality and cost challenges and the need for a comprehensive approach.

### Challenges with autism treatment

#### Clinical and medical

- Academic literature to support intensity and length-of-care decision-making is limited.
- Specific medical necessity criteria to drive complex decision-making on goal plans is lacking.
- Members require ongoing access to qualified providers.

#### Utilization management

- Extensive monitoring is critical to ensure goal plans are necessary and appropriate.
- Caregivers require extensive training and monitoring of progress against caregiver goals.
- Programs last years, costing between \$25,000 and \$50,000 per child per year.

#### Regulatory and compliance

- Legislation is driving increased demand for ASD treatment providers.
- Finding quality providers to keep pace with new laws is difficult.
- A range of services must be covered to maintain federal and state compliance.

#### Systemic

- Poor coordination among public and private entities leads to duplication of services.
- High-cost educational intervention overlaps with school-based services and medical intervention.

As the prevalence of ASD, ASD benefit mandates, and ABA treatment continue to rise, health plans must balance the needs of members and their families, as well as cost of care.

**Magellan—first-to-market with a comprehensive autism solution—can help.**

# Magellan's autism solution moves beyond traditional care

By combining Magellan's expertise in the care of children diagnosed with autism with targeted efforts to engage and serve caregivers on their journey, we ensure everyone impacted receives the care, guidance and support they need through an array of meaningful services.

- ✔ **Comprehensive diagnostic evaluation**—a multidisciplinary team, including a psychologist, neurologist, psychiatrist and speech therapist, evaluate the child's need for educational, therapeutic and other services.
- ✔ **Individualized care planning**—every child's situation is unique. Our care coordinators work with everyone involved in the child's treatment to develop a custom care plan that optimizes treatment and services.
- ✔ **Enhanced care coordination**—care coordinators follow the child's treatment from start to finish, promoting treatment team collaboration and helping coordinate medical care (e.g., EPSDT), to reduce fragmentation, ensure goals are met and redirect care as needed for the best outcomes.
- ✔ **Intensive caregiver support**—caregivers receive training, access to social support networks, and educational materials.
- ✔ **Proprietary decision support system**—this tool, available only through Magellan, helps our autism specialists and providers stay current on clinical guidelines, research and treatment options throughout the child's treatment.
- ✔ **Fully credentialed provider network**—Magellan rigorously evaluates each provider and only contracts with those who fully meet our Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) provider requirements. Through collaborative treatment planning and execution, we help providers continuously improve quality and performance.
- ✔ **Clinical excellence**—all of our care coordinators are ABA-certified. They understand our providers' methods, enabling them to quickly facilitate each child's treatment. Our autism physician provides clinical expertise and supports efficient utilization management.

For additional information and a full analysis of your health plan opportunities, please contact Justin Beck at 314-387-4835 or [JCBeck@MagellanHealth.com](mailto:JCBeck@MagellanHealth.com).