

VALLEY MOUNTAIN REGIONAL CENTER SERVICE STANDARD

Clinical Therapy/Treatment Services

PURPOSE AND PHILOSOPHY: Valley Mountain Regional Center (VMRC) is committed to providing Clinical Therapy/treatment services to consumers who will benefit from these services as documented by the ID / Planning Team Process. It is our commitment to insure the clinical appropriateness of each service prior to the initiation of that service.

In keeping with State mandates, we first utilize the consumer's Medi-Cal, Medicare or private insurance to pay for these services. VMRC is the payer of last resort.

Early Start consumers whose families have private insurance are treated differently in terms of paying for these services. If the IFSP team has identified an Early Intervention service that is needed on the IFSP, and this services is paid for by the consumer's private insurance, the parent or guardian has to be given a choice to use the private insurance or request that it be funded by the Regional Center. This is in keeping with the law stating that Early Intervention services are free, as they are a part of the child's educational plan.

I. ELIGIBILITY: To be eligible for purchase of the above services by VMRC, the following criteria must be met:

1. Need for service is identified in the IPP or IFSP.
2. Services are not available through a generic resource, i.e. mental health, CCS.
3. Service is not the legal responsibility of another agency, i.e. Department of Rehabilitation, Public Schools.
4. The therapy/treatment must be based on adequate foundation of scientific research as determined by Regional Center Staff.
5. Detailed entrance and exit criteria must be contained in the program design.
6. The consumer must meet the program's established entrance and exit criteria.
7. Services funded by VMRC shall be data-based, curriculum driven, and provided by appropriately trained and competent personnel.
8. Continuation of the service is contingent on the effectiveness with which the service meets the documented needs of a consumer.
9. Consistent with the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (reauthorized 1997), the Lanterman Act, and Title 17 of the California Code of Regulations, VMRC will discontinue payment for services only after reevaluation and concurrence by the ID team that the services are no longer effective.

II. EXCEPTIONS AND APPEALS PROCESS: As with all VMRC purchased services, if the Planning Team determines that sufficient support exists to request an exception to these standards, a Purchase of Service Exceptions request should be submitted.

VMRC recognizes that there may be occasions when a decision is made by VMRC that may not satisfy the consumer or his/her legally authorized representative. When the consumer or his/her legally authorized representative believes a VMRC decision is illegal, discriminatory or not in the consumer's best interest, an appeal can be made to challenge that decision. All processes shall be in compliance with Welfare and Institutions Code, Section 4700-4730.