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California Legislature  
Senate Select Committee  
on  
Autism & Related Disorders



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**INFORMATIONAL HEARING:**

***HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE OF BEHAVIORAL INTERVENTION THERAPY  
FOR AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDERS (ASD)***

**June 10, 2010**  
(10:30 AM to 1:00 PM)  
**The Capitol Building; Room 3191**

**AGENDA**

**Welcome & Opening Comments (10:30-10:40AM)**  
Senator Steinberg and Committee Members

**The Science and Treatment of ASD: (10:40-11:10AM)**

- ♦ *Is ASD a Brain-Based Medical Disorder?* David G. Amaral PhD
- ♦ *Behavioral Intervention Therapy for ASD? — What is it and How Does it Work?* Sally Rogers PhD
- ♦ *What is the Evidence for the Medical Treatment of ASD?* Robin Hansen MD

**The Regulatory Framework for the Private Insurance Coverage of ASD**

**Services: (11:10-11:40AM)**

Rick Martin; Holly Pearson; Andrew George; Tim LeBas (Dept. of Managed Health Care); Elena Fishman (Dept. of Insurance)

- ♦ *How Does the Dept. of Managed Health Care & the Dept. of Insurance Monitor Health Plans for Compliance with Mental Health Parity for ASD?*
- ♦ *What are the Criteria to Determine If Behavior Intervention Therapy Is A Covered Benefit and Qualifies as Medically Necessary Services for ASD?*

(CONTINUED)

**The Health Plans' Perspective: (11:40AM-12:10PM)**

Patrick Johnston (Ca Assoc. of Health Plans); David J Ormerod, MD (Blue Shield of CA) Don Mordecai, MD (Kaiser); Sandra Gloze (Kaiser)

- ♦ *What Must Be Covered For Autism Under The Mental Health Parity Act?*
- ♦ *What Are the Criteria to Determine If Behavior Intervention Therapy Qualifies as Medical Necessary Services for ASD?*
- ♦ *How Does a Practicing Physician Approach the Medical Treatment of ASD?*

**Challenges Faced by Consumers: (12:10-12:30PM)**

- ♦ *How Can Parents Navigate the Complexities of ASD Medical Care?*  
(Feda Almaliti)
- ♦ *Autism Insurance Coverage in California: Findings of the Blue Ribbon Commission & Senate Autism Taskforces* (Barbara Firestone PhD)
- ♦ *What are Other States Doing to Provide for Private Insurance Coverage of ASD?* (Lorri Unumb)

**Public Comments (12:30-12:50PM)**

**Closing Comments (12:50-1:00PM)**

**Adjournment (1:00PM)**