This Computes!

Department of Health Care Services
Children's Medical Services Network
(CMS Net) - Information Bulletin #298

Hearing Aid Replacement Standard of Care

Replacement hearing aids are a benefit for children when they are medically indicated, recommended by an audiologist, and medical clearance has been obtained by a CCS approved otolaryngologist.

It is the standard of practice in pediatric audiology that a hearing aid's useful lifetime is defined as 3-5 years. The American-Speech-Language-Hearing Association provides guidelines for hearing aid legislation, which includes new hearing aids for children every 36 months, and the majority of states adopting hearing aid insurance coverage regulations are requiring a replacement benefit of every 36 months. Additionally, technology advancement, new research findings in pediatric audiology changes in the child's developmental needs, and normal wear on the hearing aid further warrants the replacement of the hearing aid after three years of use.

Requests for replacement hearing aids that are within this standard of care and have been determined to ameliorate the hearing loss should not be denied.

Distributed: March 12, 2009
LS