



AMERICAN  
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## **ASHA's Model Speech, Language and Hearing Benefits**

### ***Ideal Health Plan Coverage for Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology Services***

These model benefit plans for audiology and speech-language pathology services and devices were developed by the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA) to provide a document that offers guidance as to appropriate coverage levels.

The model benefit plans include:

- Audiology and speech-language pathology services that should be included;
- The circumstances under which the services should be covered;
- Recommendations regarding appropriate coverage levels; and
- Recommendations for device allowances (e.g., hearing aids, augmentative and alternative communication devices).

For additional information on the model benefit plans, please contact [reimbursement@asha.org](mailto:reimbursement@asha.org).



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## Model Hearing Benefit Plan

Services and Devices <sup>1</sup>	Coverage Level & Device Allowances	CPT and HCPCS Codes
<p><b><u>Evaluation &amp; Management:</u></b> Medical Team Conferences</p>	<p>Covered in full for the pediatric and adult populations for all medical diagnoses that have an ICD-9-CM code.</p>	<p>Evaluation &amp; Management codes include, but are not limited to: 99366, 99368</p>
<p><b><u>Assessment:</u></b> Audiological, Tinnitus, Vestibular and Balance, Central Auditory, Cochlear Implant, Assistive Listening Device (ALD), Auditory Rehabilitation, Hearing Aid Assessment and Fitting</p>	<p>Covered in full for the pediatric and adult populations for all medical diagnoses that have an ICD-9-CM code.</p>	<p>Assessment codes include, but are not limited to: 92506, 92541 through 92548, 92552 through 92596, 95920, 95925, 92601 through 92604, 92620, 92621, 92625, 92626, 92627, 92640, 92700, V5010, V5011, V5014, V5020</p>
<p><b><u>Treatment:</u></b> Audiologic (Aural) Rehabilitation/Habilitation, Vestibular and Balance, Auditory Processing, Cerumen Management</p>	<p>Covered in full for the pediatric and adult populations for all medical diagnoses that have an ICD-9-CM code as long as measurable and positive functional change is noted in a reasonable time period.<sup>2</sup></p>	<p>Treatment codes include, but are not limited to: 92507, 92630, 92633, 69210, 97112</p>

<sup>1</sup> Services and Devices should be provided by an ASHA Certified and, where applicable, state licensed audiologist.

<sup>2</sup> If a limit on the number of sessions is established, the audiologist should be given the flexibility to determine the frequency and length of the sessions as well as the duration of treatment.



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<p><b>Devices:</b> Hearing Aid Devices, ALDs, Cochlear Implants and Accessories</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• \$2000 hearing aid or ALD allowance per ear every 2 years</li> <li>• Replacement earmolds covered in full up to four times per year for children 7 years of age or under</li> <li>• \$2000 cochlear implant speech processor allowance every 5 years</li> <li>• An ALD for use specifically with a cochlear implant covered in full once every 5 years</li> </ul>	<p>Device codes include, but are not limited to: V5030 through V5265, V5267 through V5269, V5273, V5275, V5298, L8619, L7510</p>
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## Model Speech and Language Benefit Plan

Services and Devices <sup>3</sup>	Coverage Level & Device Allowances	CPT and HCPCS Codes
<p><b><u>Evaluation &amp; Management:</u></b> Medical Team Conferences</p>	<p>Covered in full for the pediatric and adult populations for all medical diagnoses that have an ICD-9-CM code.</p>	<p>Evaluation &amp; Management codes include, but are not limited to: 99366, 99368</p>
<p><b><u>Assessment:</u></b> Speech, Language, Voice, Stuttering, Communication, <b>Cognitive</b>, Auditory Processing, Aural Rehabilitation, Swallowing Function, Augmentative and Alternative Communication (AAC), Voice Prosthetic</p>	<p>Covered in full for the pediatric and adult populations for all medical diagnoses that have an ICD-9-CM code.</p>	<p>Assessment codes include, but are not limited to: 92506, 92511, 92520, 92597, 92605, 92607, 92608, 92610, 92611, 92612, 92614, 92616, 96105, 96110, 96111, 96125</p>
<p><b><u>Treatment:</u></b> Speech, Language, Voice, Stuttering, Communication, Auditory Processing, Aural</p>	<p>Covered in full for the pediatric and adult populations for all medical diagnoses that have an ICD-9-CM code as long as</p>	<p>Treatment codes include, but are not limited to: 92507, 92508, 92510, 97532, 97533, 92526, 92606, 92609, 97110,</p>

<sup>3</sup> Services should be provided by an ASHA Certified and, where applicable, state licensed speech-language pathologist.



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Rehabilitation/Habilitation, Swallowing Function, AAC, Voice Prosthetic	measurable and positive functional change is noted in a reasonable time period. <sup>4</sup>	97112, 97150, 97530, 97532
<b>Devices:</b> AAC and Prosthetic Devices & Accessories	Covered in full if recommended by an ASHA-certified, and/or licensed speech-language pathologist.	Device codes include, but are not limited to: E2500 through E2512 and L8500-L8515, V5336

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<sup>4</sup> If a limit on the number of sessions is established, the speech-language pathologist should be given the flexibility to determine the frequency and length of the sessions as well as the duration of treatment.



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## **Resources**

**Current Procedural Terminology (CPT) Codes** - The American Medical Association (AMA) developed CPT codes to provide a uniform language that will accurately designate medical, surgical, and diagnostic services, such as those provided by audiologists and speech-language pathologists.

**Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System (HCPCS)** - Level II HCPCS National Codes were developed by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) for reporting most medical services and supplies, including hearing aids and speech generating devices, provided to Medicare and Medicaid patients and by most private payers.

**International Classification of Diseases, 9<sup>th</sup> Revision Clinical Modification (ICD-9-CM)** - The intent of ICD-9-CM is to standardize disease and procedure classification throughout the United States. The ICD-9-CM is recommended for use in all clinical settings but is required for reporting diagnoses and diseases to all U.S. Public Health Service and Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) programs.

A copy of the CPT, HCPCS, and ICD-9-CM coding systems can be obtained from:

Ingenix Companies  
PO Box 27116  
Salt Lake City, UT 84127-0116  
800-765-6588  
801-982-4033 (fax)  
[www.IngenixOnLine.com](http://www.IngenixOnLine.com)

American Medical Association Press  
Order Department  
PO Box 930876  
Atlanta, GA 31193-0876  
800-621-8335  
[www.ama-assn.org/catalog](http://www.ama-assn.org/catalog)

American Speech-Language-Hearing Association  
Product Sales (Health Plan Coding and Claims Guide)  
800-498-2071, ext. 5803  
[productsales@asha.org](mailto:productsales@asha.org)

HCPCS codes can also be obtained from:

United States Government Printing Office  
Superintendent of Documents  
PO Box 371954  
Pittsburgh, PA 15250-7954  
202-512-1800  
[www.gpo.gov](http://www.gpo.gov)