



Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) Manual Updates

The Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) Manual has been updated by the Louisiana Department of Health (LDH). Key changes include:

1. Expanded Definition of Qualified Health Care Professionals (QHCP):
 - Pediatricians can now use the [Modified Checklist for Autism in Toddlers, Revised](#) MCHAT-R/F and their clinical judgment to diagnose autism and complete comprehensive diagnostic evaluations.
 - For children with a high-risk score (≥ 8) on the MCHAT-R/F, pediatricians can independently diagnose autism if their clinical judgment concurs.
 - For children with a moderate risk score (3-7), pediatricians can conduct the MCHAT-R/F follow-up interview and either diagnose autism independently or refer to a subspecialist listed in the ABA Manual.
2. Coordination of Care Requirements:
 - The primary care provider's (PCP) name and contact information must be included on all behavior treatment plans.
 - PCPs must be copied on all behavior treatment plans, which can be facilitated through electronic health records.

These updates are reflected in the ABA Manual, available online [here](#). UnitedHealthcare Community Plan will update their systems within 30 days of this.

For questions about these changes, contact Crystal Faison at Crystal.Faison@la.gov or 225-342-8233.

For any questions related to ABA claims, contact UnitedHealthcare Community Plan at 1-866-675-1607.

LDH has published Informational Bulletin 25-9 for your reference [IB25-9.pdf](#).