



AASM Advocacy Efforts to Ensure Sleep Services are Included in State Exchanges



Fall of 2012:

AASM contacted the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), and every State Insurance Department, State Medical Society, and all existing State Exchanges to ensure sleep services are covered in each state exchange.



April 2013:

AASM sent 358 letters to senior executives at various corporate and state health insurance companies. The letters informed them of how sleep services should be covered in the State Exchange Essential Health Benefits (EHBs) and highlighted the following points:

- The millions of individuals will be entering the health care system through the ACA will need of sleep services;
- Discussed how sleep services are not specified in the law; and
- Demonstrated that sleep services should be recognized and that these procedures are medically necessary.



Responses:

AASM has received a total of 90 responses from insurance companies, 61 of which confirm that sleep services will be covered in their state exchange products. We have not received any responses indicating that sleep services will not be covered.

Members can click [here](#) to view a few of the responses we have received.



Winter of 2012/2013:

AASM staff conducted a call with the Center for Consumer Information and Insurance Oversight (CCIIO), a department within CMS charged with helping implement many provisions of the Affordable Care Act (ACA), to ensure our strategy was correct.

CCIIO confirmed that our strategy was appropriate and that we have so far gone through the correct channels. CCIIO also recommended that we contact the private payers who will be offering the plans within each exchange.



June 2013:

A second round of letters was sent out during the first week of June to the companies that had not responded to our April letter.



Today:

AASM will continue to advocate for our membership on this issue and will notify members of any new developments.

