



State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
DIVISION OF MEDICAL ASSISTANCE AND HEALTH SERVICES

CHRIS CHRISTIE
Governor

P.O. Box 712
Trenton, NJ 08625-0712

ELIZABETH CONNOLLY
Acting Commissioner

KIM GUADAGNO
Lt. Governor

MEGHAN DAVEY
Director

**STATE OF NEW JERSEY
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
DIVISION OF MEDICAL ASSISTANCE
AND HEALTH SERVICES**

R.A.,

PETITIONER,

v.

UNITED HEALTHCARE,

RESPONDENT.

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ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION

FINAL AGENCY DECISION

OAL DKT. NO. HMA 03276-17

As Director of the Division of Medical Assistance and Health Services, I have reviewed the record in this matter, consisting of the Initial Decision, the documents in evidence, the contents of the OAL case file and Petitioner's exceptions to the Initial Decision. Procedurally, the time period for the Agency Head to render a Final Agency Decision is October 2, 2017 in accordance with N.J.S.A. 52:14B-10 which requires an Agency Head to adopt, reject or modify the Initial Decision within 45 days of the agency's receipt. The Initial Decision was received on August 16, 2017.


The issue in this case concerns authorization for a dental implant and the accompanying sinus lift surgery. As set forth in the regulations addressing Prosthodontic treatment, "[i]mplants will not normally be considered for reimbursement."

N.J.A.C. 10:56-2.13(c). Moreover, the regulations specifically state that "prior authorization for implants is limited to requests that demonstrate that a beneficiary has a facial anomaly, deformity or has been unable to function with a complete denture for at least two years and other surgical corrections have been unsuccessful in improving the retention of the denture." N.J.A.C. 10:56-2.13(c)1. The ALJ affirmed United's denial, finding that the dental implant is not medically necessary in that R.A. is only missing one tooth. The ALJ notes that R.A. has twenty-seven remaining teeth in good periodontal condition and has functional occlusion, which enables her to bite and chew her food. Additionally, R.A. does not have a facial anomaly or deformity and has not had an unsuccessful denture for at least two years. For these reasons, I find no reason to disturb the ALJ's decision.

THEREFORE, it is on this 25th day of September 2017,

ORDERED:

That the Initial Decision affirming the denial of dental services is hereby
ADOPTED as the Final Decision.


Meghan Davey, Director
Division of Medical Assistance
and Health Services