



JAN 6 2000

Lewis Golinker, Esq.
Director
Assistive Technology Law Center
Suite 507
202 East State Street
Ithaca, New York 14850

Re: Augmentative and Alternative Communication Devices
Tracking #: CAG-00055

Dear Mr. Golinker:

We have accepted your formal request that we consider coverage of augmentative and alternative communication devices. My staff will undertake a review of this issue and will contact you should they have any questions. We have assigned this issue a tracking number, CAG-00055, to which you should refer in any future correspondence.

Shana Olshan is the lead analyst on this issue, and can be reached at (410) 786- 3122 or via e-mail at solshan@hcfa.gov.

We officially accepted your request on December 30, 1999, and will forward a response to you within 90 days of that date. Our response may take a number of forms, including a coverage (or noncoverage) decision, announcement of a duplicate request, referral of this issue for a technology assessment or referral to the MCAC for review. Our response will explain what these actions mean in terms of handling your request.

All actions, such as meetings, consultations, requests for assessments or referrals to the Medicare Coverage Advisory Committee, which we take in our review of this issue will be publicly listed on the Health Care Financing Administration (HCFA) Home Page. Our Home Page may be accessed on the Internet at www.hcfa.gov.

Page 2 - Lewis Golinker, Esq.

Please feel free to contact Shana Olshan or to call me directly at (410) 786-7176.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "H. Hill", written over a horizontal line.

Hugh F. Hill, M.D., J.D.

Acting Director

Coverage and Analysis Group

Office of Clinical Standards and Quality