

Prosthetic and Orthotic Adult Benefit Summary

In Fiscal Year 1998-99 the Medicaid Prosthetic Program for adults was funded in the amount of \$978,994. The Joint Budget Committee requested information regarding the anticipated expenditures for the first and second fiscal years which is the reason for this report.

An advisory committee was set up through the provider community in order to assist with additional protocols for review. The advisory committee would also assist in training regarding prostheses and orthoses. Providers received questionnaires to help reviewers conduct a comprehensive review of each request for prior authorization. The Department also developed two questionnaires, which assisted in determining the degree to which each request meets the Medicare criteria, to be submitted with the prior authorization request.

For the first year, expenditures were a total of \$373,964.50, serving 381 clients. The expected figures for fiscal year 1999-2000 is a 30% increase for a total of \$485,426. The anticipated increase is due to the fact that not all providers and clients seem to be fully aware of the benefit and will request the services during the second year.

For some types of medical services there have been increased expenditures, while there have been decreased expenditures for others. Net savings documented for one-half of the benefit's first fiscal year are \$195,482. Across the balance of the population, the net savings would result in an estimated amount of \$448,666 for the entire year in other medical services because of the prosthetic and orthotic benefit.