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Insurance address

Re: name

Member number

To whom it may concern:

I provided Medical Nutrition Therapy Services to xx on xx and xx because he has Celiac Disease (CD). CD is an autoimmune disease where proteins found in wheat, barley, rye and most oats trigger an immune system response that results in damage to the small intestine. Failure to follow a gluten-free diet can cause a host of preventable diseases and conditions, such as anemia, osteoporosis, malnutrition, cancer, pregnancy complication or other autoimmune diseases. Not only can this be life-threatening, but these secondary conditions require a lot of costly testing and treatments. The only treatment for CD is a lifelong strict gluten-free diet. There is no drug or other treatment.

I received a denial of both claims on xx, and I would like to appeal on his behalf, on the basis that his knowledge and ability to follow a gluten-free diet is vital to his lifelong health and well-being. A lifelong gluten-free diet is the *only* form of treatment available. Nutrition services are necessary for my care, and *The NIH Consensus Statement on Celiac Disease* states that “consultation with a skilled dietitian is essential”. Nutrition services are listed as one of the six key elements for the management of CD. <http://consensus.nih.gov/2004/2004CeliacDisease118html.htm> Most research centers and gastrointestinal groups recommend seeing a knowledgeable dietitian, as people with CD specific needs to insure both short-term recovery and long-term health.

I hope you will consider covering this session for xx. Not only is nutrition counseling necessary for *all* clients with CD, but this care will also translate into improved health and significant short and long-term savings.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Cheryl Harris, MPH, RD, LD