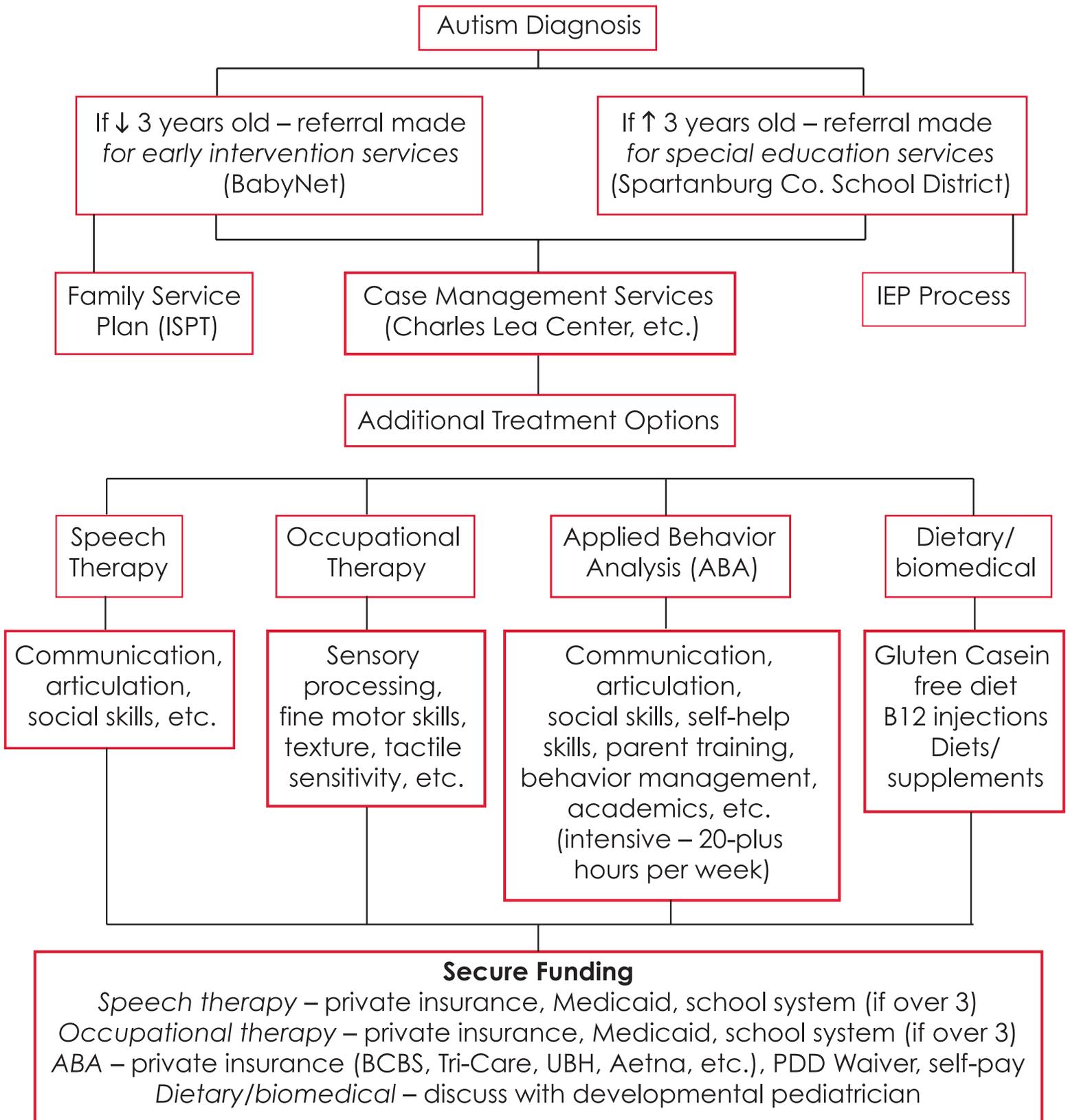


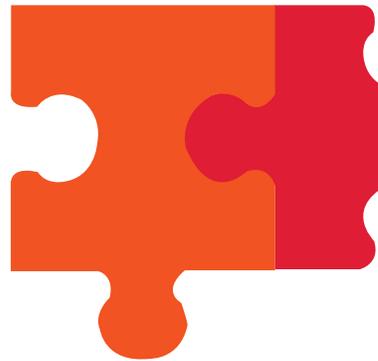


Funding in South Carolina



Secure Funding

Speech therapy – private insurance, Medicaid, school system (if over 3)
Occupational therapy – private insurance, Medicaid, school system (if over 3)
ABA – private insurance (BCBS, Tri-Care, UBH, Aetna, etc.), PDD Waiver, self-pay
Dietary/biomedical – discuss with developmental pediatrician



Funding for Applied Behavior Analysis Services

www.ghschildrens.org/aba.php

Applied Behavior Analysis:

In South Carolina, families can access professional ABA services after receiving a diagnosis of autism spectrum disorder in four ways:

- 1 They can self-pay for services.
2. Children under age 3 may receive ABA therapy through BabyNet.

BabyNet is South Carolina's interagency system of early intervention services for families who have infants and toddlers, birth to age 3, with developmental delays or conditions associated with developmental delays.

Children diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder who are served by BabyNet may be eligible to receive ABA therapy (at no cost to the family). Families should speak to their child's early interventionist for more information about applying for this service.

3. Families may receive coverage through their private insurance company if the policy honors Ryan's Law.

Ryan's Law requires insurance companies doing business in South Carolina (with four exceptions noted below) to cover up to \$50,000 a year in behavioral therapy for children diagnosed by age 8 (coverage is available until a child turns 16). It also prohibits insurance companies from refusing to cover someone because that person has autism.

Coverage Exceptions

- People employed by the federal government and thus covered by Tricare (military insurance) or one of the FEHBP plans (federal civilian insurance).
- People who get insurance through a self-insured company. Parents/caregivers MUST check directly with their employer to find out if their company is self-insured.
- People who get insurance through a small business (fewer than 50 people).
- People who buy individual insurance policies.

Families should contact their insurance company to determine if they are eligible for services under Ryan's Law.

4. Children may receive services through the South Carolina PDD Waiver.

South Carolina PDD Waiver

The Pervasive Developmental Disorder Waiver provides for early intensive behavioral intervention services to children (ages 3-10) diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder or have been previously diagnosed with a PDD, including autism and Asperger's Syndrome. These services are limited to non-educational settings.

Eligibility Criteria

- Children must be ages 3-10.
- Children must be diagnosed with a PDD before the child turns 9 years old. The diagnosis must be made by a qualified professional.
- Families must meet eligibility criteria for either income-based or TEFRA Medicaid, or they must provide documentation of application (even if denied).

Families should talk to their child's service coordinator or another representative from the Department of Disabilities and Special Needs (DDSN) for a full explanation of waiver eligibility requirements.

To Apply for PDD Waiver Services

- Families Currently Receiving DDSN Services: Contact the child's service coordinator and request that the child go through the intake process for the PDD Waiver.
- Families Not Receiving DDSN Services: Call the PDD Waiver Intake and Referral toll free number (1-888-576-4658).

Department of Disabilities and Special Needs

The South Carolina Department of Disabilities and Special Needs (DDSN) is the State Department through which individuals must meet eligibility in order to receive Case Management and related services. Families can call 1-800-289-7012 to begin this process.

Steps on applying for services and other information can also be found on the DDSN website:

www.ddsn.sc.gov/consumers/Pages/default.aspx

Medicaid

Applying for Medicaid may aid in the eligibility process. Information on eligibility criteria and application information can be found on the South Carolina Department of Health and Human Services website:

www.scdhhs.gov/Getting-Started and www.scdhhs.gov/eligibility-groups/disabled-children

Social Security

Adult children may also be eligible for Supplemental Security Income (SSI).

More information is available here: www.ssa.gov/disability/

