To Whom It May Concern:

Re:  \*\*\*\*\*\*

\*\*\*\*\* was recently enrolled in a program of therapy addressing his articulation and language disorders.  Speech-language pathology and audiology services are medically necessary to treat speech-language, swallowing, hearing, and balance disorders. Determining medical necessity takes into consideration whether a service is essential and appropriate to the diagnosis and/or treatment of an illness or injury. According to *Stedman’s Medical Dictionary, 24th Edition*, illness is defined as “disease,” which is further defined as a “disorder of body functions.” Loss of hearing, impaired speech and language, and swallowing difficulties all reflect a loss of body functions. Therefore, services to treat such impairments must be regarded as meeting the definition of medical necessity.  Speech-language pathology and audiology services are provided within acceptable professional standards, according to the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association’s Preferred Practice Patterns

\*\*\*\*\*\* services were reasonable, being provided with appropriate amount, frequency and duration, and accepted standards of practice.  They were necessary, as they were appropriate treatment for his diagnoses and condition, and they were specifically targeted to his treatment goals.  There was expectation for improvement within a reasonable time; in fact, \*\*\*\*\* did show improvement during the time he received therapy from us.  His services required the knowledge, skills and judgment of a speech-language pathologist.

\*\*\*\*\* was referred for these services by his pediatrician.  A copy of the physician prescription is enclosed as well as his evaluation report and treatment plan.