Health Insurance ‘Break-down’ for Speech Therapy Services

***High frequency used terms:***

DEDUCTIBLE: Amount of money you will need to pay yourself before your insurance company provides any payment to providers for their services within your policy year. (Ex. Your deductible is $2500 per individual, you will have to pay this amount yourself before the insurance pays anything.)

OUT OF POCKET MAXIMUM: The maximum amount of money that you will pay per policy year. This is a separate amount than your deductible. (Ex. Your deductible is $2500 per individual, and your out of pocket maximum is $5000.)

CO-PAY: The amount of money you will pay per treatment session for services provided. This does accumulate towards your out of pocket maximum. (Ex. $40/specialist visit)

CO-INSURANCE: A percentage of the contracted rate your provider has that you are expected to pay until you reach your out of pocket maximum. (Ex. Insurance pays 80% of the contracted rate for service, that means you pay the remainder 20%).

***Will my insurance cover speech therapy?***

* All insurance companies are different and cover different services. Essentially, what insurance coverage comes down to is their ***plan exclusions***
	+ PLAN EXCLUSION: What your insurance plan has identified as reasons that they have deemed ‘medically necessary’ for speech therapy coverage. If your child’s diagnosis is an exclusion, you will be responsible for paying for services and what you pay will not go towards your deductible or out of pocket maximum, since insurance will deny all claims.
	+ VISIT LIMIT: Certain insurance plans have a visit limit on how many speech therapy (combined or separate from other therapy services) visits you can have within a policy year.
* Some insurance companies require prior authorization
	+ PRIOR AUTHORIZATION: Insurance company requests medical records from Eat, Talk & Play Therapy LLC (initial evaluation), script from doctor, and any other pertinent medical information. And reviews it in order to authorize speech therapy coverage/sessions.

***What will Eat, Talk & Play Therapy LLC do for you in regards to insurance coverage?***

1. Prior to arriving at your first visit, we will call and get your insurance information, including: ***deductible, co-pay, co-insurance, out of pocket maximum***, ***plan exclusions*** for speech therapy based off of your child’s diagnosis, and ***visit limit*** for speech therapy.
2. We will provide you with the information that we receive after we have spoken with your insurance company. We will encourage you to call and verify these benefits with your insurance company yourself. Therefore, it is YOUR RESPONSIBILITY as an insurance policy holder to understand the financial obligations of your plan.
3. In the event that a claim is denied, depending on the reason, Eat, Talk & Play Therapy LLC will attempt an appeal if deemed appropriate.