

**Presbyterian Salud Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic and Treatment (EPSDT) Program**

Children experience numerous health and developmental milestones that should be assessed and treated in a timely manner. Early detection and treatment can avoid or minimize the effects of many childhood conditions. The Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic and Treatment (EPSDT) program (which is federally mandated) emphasizes the early discovery of illness and the need for comprehensive care. One component of the EPSDT program is complete and timely immunizations (see Immunizations and Vaccines for Children information below). Presbyterian serves to support providers/practitioners in coordinating these services.

EPSDT benefits include comprehensive medical and behavioral screening, and treatment services, available to all Medicaid children from birth through age 20. The EPSDT well-child check-ups are also referred to as "Tot-to-Teen Health Checks."

**The EPSDT benefit requires the following services:**

**Medical Screening Services** -- screening services must include **all** of the following:

- 1. History.** A comprehensive health and developmental history including assessment of both physical and mental health development.
- 2. Physical Exam.** A comprehensive unclothed physical exam.
- 3. Immunizations.** Appropriate immunizations, according to age and health history, and according to the schedule established by the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) for pediatric adolescent vaccines.

**Immunizations and Vaccines for Children (VFC)**

Information on the VFC program may be obtained through the following:

- Carly Christian, MPH, VFC Manager, **(505) 827-2898**, [Carolyn.Christian@state.nm.us](mailto:Carolyn.Christian@state.nm.us)
- Marsha Rippetoe, VFC Health Educator, **(505) 827-2415**, [Marsha.Rippetoe@state.nm.us](mailto:Marsha.Rippetoe@state.nm.us)
- NM Dept. of Health and Immunization/VFC Help Desk, **1-888-231-2367**
- Centers for Disease Control (CDC) Immunization Hotline, **1-800-232-4636**

- 4. Health Education.** Health education is a required component of screening services and includes age appropriate anticipatory guidance.
- 5. Laboratory Tests.** Laboratory tests, including an appropriate blood lead level assessment.

Documentation in the medical record should include exams for all of the five components of the medical screen. This documentation is reviewed as part of the recredentialing process and the annual HEDIS® (the NCQA Health Plan Employer Data Information Set) data collection.

**Lead Toxicity Screening.** All children are considered at risk and must be screened for lead poisoning. CMS requires that all Medicaid-eligible children receive a screening blood lead test at 12 months and 24 months of age. CMS also requires that children between the ages of 36 months and 72 months of age receive a screening blood lead test if they have not been previously screened for lead poisoning. A blood lead test result equal to or greater than 10 ug/dl obtained by capillary specimen (finger stick) must be confirmed using a venous blood sample.

Access the *EPSDT Provider Training Manual* at: <http://www.phs.org/PHS/healthplans/providers/ProviderResources/index.htm>  
For a hard copy of the EPSDT Manual, please contact your Provider Services Coordinator.

**Hearing Services.** The hearing screen includes diagnosis and treatment for defects in hearing, including hearing aids.

**Vision Services.** The vision screen includes diagnosis and treatment for defects in vision, including eyeglasses. This may include initial screening and referral for refraction and eyeglasses.

**Dental Services.** The dental screen includes maintenance of dental health, an assessment for relief of pain and infections, and restoration of teeth.

The Guide to Children's Dental Care in Medicaid (PDS 691KB)

<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MedicaidEarlyPeriodicScrn/downloads/EPSTDentalGuide.pdf>

**Screening Schedule.** Presbyterian follows the State of New Mexico Medical Assistance Division's (MAD) periodicity schedule published in MAD 741.31 as well as the Federal EPSDT screening schedule. Both NM Medicaid and CMS certification requirements will be met if documentation in providers' records shows that EPSDT screens have been conducted based upon the periodicity schedule noted below.

**EPSDT Screening Schedule (Well-Child Checkups)**

| Babies    | Children  | Youth    |
|-----------|-----------|----------|
| 7-14 days | 15 months | 14 years |
| 1 month   | 18 months | 15 years |
| 2 months  | 2 years   | 16 years |
| 4 months  | 3 years   | 17 years |
| 6 months  | 4 years   | 18 years |
| 9 months  | 5 years   | 19 years |
| 12 months | 6 years   | 20 years |
|           | 8 years   |          |
|           | 10 years  |          |
|           | 12 years  |          |
|           | 13 years  |          |

**Additional EPSDT Screens Allowable When Medically Necessary.** Presbyterian encourages the aforementioned examination schedule. Additional or more frequent examinations may be provided and will be reimbursed if the physician, provider, or Primary Care Practitioner determines that they are medically necessary. Your documentation should support the additional screening/examinations in the provider of service chart.

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