



The Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic, and Treatment (EPSDT) Benefit

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Quick Reminders about EPSDT



Authority for EPSDT

- Sections 1905(a) and 1905(r) of the U.S. Social Security Act
- U.S. Code, Title 42, section 1396d(r)
- Code of Federal Regulations, Title 42, section 441.50
- California Welfare and Institutions Code 14059.5(b)



Eligibility for EPSDT

- Under 21
- Eligible for full-scope Medi-Cal



EPSDT Medical Necessity

≥ 21

- Medi-Cal:
A service is reasonable and necessary to protect life, to prevent significant illness or significant disability, or to alleviate severe pain.

< 21

- EPSDT:
Health care, diagnostic services, treatment, and other measures covered by Medicaid necessary to correct or ameliorate defects and physical and mental illnesses and conditions discovered by the screening services, whether or not such services are covered under Medi-Cal.



Current Activities around EPSDT



SB 1287 Activities

- Terminology – removing concept of “supplemental” services



SB 1287 Activities

- Terminology – removing concept of supplemental or additional services
- Medical necessity definition
 - Health care, diagnostic services, treatment, and other measures covered by Medicaid necessary to correct or ameliorate defects and physical and mental illnesses and conditions discovered by the screening services, whether or not such services are covered under Medi-Cal.
- Remove “EPSDT” from SARs and TARs



EPSDT Communications

- myMedi-Cal: How To Get The Care You Need (PUB 68), available online (<https://www.dhcs.ca.gov/Pages/myMedi-Cal.aspx>), given to applicants, and mailed to newly enrolled individuals.
- Website: www.DHCS.CA.gov > Services > Children & Youth Health > Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic, and Treatment
<https://www.dhcs.ca.gov/services/Pages/EPSTD.aspx>
 - Medi-Cal Coverage for EPSDT
 - Information for Medi-Cal Beneficiaries
 - Information for Medi-Cal Providers
- Medi-Cal Provider Manual www.Medi-Cal.CA.gov > Publications > Provider Manuals > General Medicine >
 - Preventive Services (section III is on the Bright Futures / American Academy of Pediatrics' Periodicity Schedule)
 - The Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic, and Treatment Benefit





Questions about EPSDT?

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Telehealth Services

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History of Medi-Cal and Telehealth

- DHCS began reimbursing for services delivered via telehealth after the Telemedicine Development Act of 1996.
- Medi-Cal currently covers:
 - Evaluation & management (E&M) codes
 - Psychiatric therapeutic procedures
 - Originating site facility fees and transmission fees
 - Teleophthalmology, teledermatology, and teledentistry
 - X-rays & EKG interpretations/reports



Medi-Cal and Telehealth

- Medi-Cal telehealth service is emerging as a critical technology to:
 - Increase access to health care services.
 - Significantly affect some of the most challenging problems of our current health care system: access to care, cost-effective delivery, and distribution of limited providers.
 - Change the current paradigm of care and allow for improved access and improved health outcomes in cost-effective ways.



Telehealth Moving Forward

- DHCS revised the telehealth policy to clarify that Medi-Cal providers have flexibility to use telehealth as a modality for delivering medically necessary services to their patients.
- In October 2018, DHCS shared the draft Telehealth policy documents, including Provider Manual Sections and draft All Plan Letter, to more than 1,500 stakeholders.
- DHCS received feedback from more than 30 organizations.



Telehealth Moving Forward

(cont.)

Revisions

- Allows Medi-Cal providers flexibility to determine if a particular service or benefit is clinically appropriate for telehealth.
- Places no limitations on originating or distant sites.
- Authorizes e-consults under the auspice of store and forward.
- Does not provide a specific list of services that may be provided via telehealth.



Telehealth Moving Forward

(cont.)

Proposed policy

- Defines who is responsible for maintaining documentation of consent.
- Allows provider flexibility for documentation to substantiate the appropriateness of services provided via telehealth.
- Allows written and verbal consent.



Telehealth Moving Forward

(cont.)

Revisions

- Implements Place of Service Code 02 and modifier 95 for services delivered via telehealth.
- Does not include a policy to address remote patient monitoring.



Telehealth Moving Forward

(cont.)

- Publish the Provider Manual sections by Spring 2019.



More Information on Medi-Cal Telehealth:

DHCS Medi-Cal and Telehealth website available at
<https://www.dhcs.ca.gov/provgovpart/pages/telehealth.aspx>

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Developmental & Trauma Screenings

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Developmental screenings

- Effective Date: July 1, 2019
- Target Population: Children up to age 30 months (9, 18, and 30 months)
- Provider Types: All
- CPT Code: 96110
- Rate: \$59.90



Trauma Screenings

- Effective Date: July 1, 2019
- Target Population: Children and adults up to age 65
- Provider Types: All
- CPT Code: 96160
- Rate: \$29



More information on Development and Trauma Screenings

- **Proposition 56 funding:**
 - DHCS Prop 56 website available at:
<https://www.dhcs.ca.gov/provgovpart/Pages/Proposition-56.aspx>

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Medi-Cal Diabetes Prevention Program Overview

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Legislation – SB 97

- Established the Diabetes Prevention Program (DPP) for Medi-Cal
- To help prevent or delay the onset of type 2 diabetes
- Requires compliance with CDC and CMS guidelines and requires DPP providers to obtain CDC recognition



Program Overview

- Medi-Cal will mirror Medicare's DPP and will follow CDC requirements
- Core benefit is 12 consecutive months
 - **Core sessions:** at least 16 weekly sessions over months 1-6
 - **Core maintenance sessions:** at least 6 monthly sessions over months 6-12
 - Offered regardless of weight loss, but may include provider incentives to help beneficiaries obtain required weight loss
 - Approx. 1-hour sessions



Beneficiary Eligibility

- Enrolled in Medi-Cal
- 18 years of age or older
- No previous diagnosis of type 1 or type 2 diabetes
 - Excludes gestational diabetes
- Once-per-lifetime benefit



CDC Curriculum

- Every session:
 - Private weigh-ins
 - Discuss successes and challenges from previous session
- Topics include:
 - Physical activity and overcoming barriers
 - Healthy eating out
 - Preventing relapse
 - Heart health





DPP providers

- DPP providers are organizations or individuals with preliminary or full recognition from the CDC's Diabetes Prevention Recognition Program
- Providers enroll in Medi-Cal
- Providers bill for services provided by DDP coaches



Peer Coaches

- Trained in the CDC curriculum
- Can be a:
 - Physician
 - Nonphysician practitioner
 - Unlicensed person under the supervision of a DPP provider who can bill Medi-Cal



More information on DPP

- **Diabetes Prevention Program services:**
 - DHCS DPP website available at:
<https://www.dhcs.ca.gov/services/medical/Pages/Diabetes-Prevention-Program.aspx>

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