

Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic, and Treatment services for medical members under the age of 21

Anthem Blue Cross (Anthem) ensures the provision of screening, preventive and medically necessary diagnostic, and treatment services at no cost for all enrolled Medi-Cal Managed Care (Medi-Cal) members under the age of 21 through the Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic and Treatment (EPSDT) benefit. This provider bulletin reinforces existing network provider requirements pertaining to EPSDT services, including existing state and federal laws and new requirements.

Overview

As of March 16, 2023, the EPSDT benefit is now known as Medi-Cal for Kids and Teens in the state of California. Medi-Cal for Kids and Teens is key to ensuring that children and youth under the age of 21 who are enrolled in Medi-Cal are guaranteed appropriate and preventive dental, mental health, developmental, and specialty services.

Medi-Cal providers should inform beneficiaries under the age of 21 or their parents/guardians about Medi-Cal for Kids and Teens. This guidance is also intended to outline requirements for MCPs to ensure members have access to information on EPSDT and network providers receive standardized training on EPSDT using the newly developed DHCS Medi-Cal for Kids and Teens Outreach and Education Toolkit.

Outreach and education materials

Per DHCS APL 23-005, *Requirements for coverage of early and periodic screening, diagnostic, and treatment services for Medi-Cal members under age 21**, DHCS in partnership with stakeholders (including Medi-Cal-enrolled children and families) developed child-focused and teen-focused brochures that provide an overview of EPSDT, including Covered Services, how to access those services, and the importance of Preventive Care. DHCS also developed the *Medi-Cal for Kids & Teens: Your Medi-Cal Rights* letter that illustrates what to do if Medi-Cal care is denied, delayed, reduced, or stopped, and includes whom to contact, how to file grievances and appeals, and how to access other enrollee assistance resources. Medi-Cal providers should inform beneficiaries under age 21 or their parents/guardians about using these brochures and the *Medi-Cal for Kids and Teens: Your Medi-Cal Rights* letter.

To access DHCS' new Medi-Cal outreach and education toolkit for kids and teens, please visit:
[Medi-Cal for Kids & Teens webpage](#).

For additional information about EPSDT, please visit Anthem's provider website at:
providers.anthem.com/california-provider/patient-care/epsdt



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