



July 11, 2023

All Plan Letter (APL) 23-005 Requirements for Coverage of Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic, and Treatment Services for Medi-Cal Members Under the Age of 21

Dear Provider,

The Department of Health Care Services has released All Plan Letter (APL) 23-005, Requirements for Coverage of Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic, and Treatment (EPSDT) Services for Medi-Cal Members Under the Age of 21. EPSDT benefit is designed to assure children receive early detection and care, so health problems are avoided or diagnosed and treated as early as possible. The goal is to ensure children get the right care, at the right time, in the right setting and includes:

- Screening Services
 - Comprehensive health and developmental history
 - Comprehensive unclothed physical exam
 - Appropriate immunizations
 - Laboratory tests
 - Health education (including anticipatory guidance)
- Vision Services
 - Diagnosis and treatment for defects in eye, including glasses
- Dental Services (KHS is responsible for covered medical services related to dental services not provided by dentist or dental anesthetists)
 - Relief of pain and infection
 - Restoration of teeth
 - Maintenance of dental health
- Hearing Services
 - Diagnosis and treatment for defects in hearing including hearing aids
- Any other necessary health care, diagnostic services, treatment to correct or ameliorate defects and physical and mental illnesses and conditions discovered by screening services even if the services are not covered by Kern Health Systems.

The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) developed “Bright Future Guidelines”

<https://brightfutures.aap.org/Pages/default.aspx>

and “Recommendations for Preventative Pediatric Health Care” also known as “periodicity schedule”

<https://www.aap.org/en-us/professional-resources/practice-%20transformation/managing-patients/Pages/Periodicity-Schedule.aspx>

which are evidence-based guidance and recommendations for preventative care screenings.

PROVIDER Bulletin



KERN HEALTH SYSTEMS

If the Kern Health Systems member has an open California Children's Services (CCS) case which covers the diagnosis, treatment will be handled by CCS.

To access the DHCS EPSDT Training please visit:

<https://www.dhcs.ca.gov/services/Medi-Cal-For-Kids-and-Teens/Documents/DHCS-EPSDT-Provider-Training.pdf>

To access the full APL, please visit:

<https://www.dhcs.ca.gov/formsandpubs/Documents/MMCDAPLsandPolicyLetters/APL2023/APL23-005.pdf>

KHS posts all bulletins on the KHS website, www.kernfamilyhealthcare.com, choose Provider, then Bulletins.

For any questions, please contact your Provider Relations Representative at 1-800-391-2000.

Sincerely,

Melissa McGuire
Deputy Director of Provider Network
Kern Health Systems