SUMMER 2024 VOLTAEtna Better Health® Medicaid member newsletter

HEALTHY LIVING

Screen today for a healthier tomorrow

Health screenings aren't just for older adults. Start these five in your younger years to take control of your health.

NEED TO RENEW?

You must renew your Medicaid coverage every year. Look for your renewal notice in the mail. Visit **aet.na/su24la-1** or scan the QR code to learn more.



Blood pressure

All adults should get their blood pressure checked every three to five years. If you're over 40, get it checked every year.

Cholesterol

Experts recommend checking your cholesterol every four to six years.

Cervical cancer

Pap and HPV tests can help prevent cervical cancer. Women 21 to 65 years old should get tested every three to five years.

Diabetes

The American Diabetes Association recommends that everyone start screening for diabetes at 35 years old. But your doctor may recommend screening earlier if you are at high risk.

Sexually transmitted infections (STIs)

If you are sexually active, talk to your doctor about getting tested for STIs like HIV, gonorrhea and chlamydia.

We have preventive health

guidelines to help you stay healthy. Your doctor will recommend screenings based on your health history. You may need to be screened more often or earlier for certain conditions.

Make an appointment with your doctor today! Don't have one? Visit **AetnaBetterHealth.com/** louisiana/find-provider to search our provider directory. Or call Member Services for help.

♥aetna

Aetna Better Health[®] of Louisiana Questions about your health plan? Call Member Services at 1-855-242-0802 (TTY: 711), 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Or visit AetnaBetterHealth.com/louisiana for more information.

Smart strategies for managing multiple health conditions

Juggling different medications, specialists and appointments? These tips and tools can help make it easier to take control of your health and feel your best.

Review your medications

If you're taking more than one medication, it's a good idea to review them with your doctor each year.

They might suggest a medication that combines the work of two of your drugs, for example. Which means you'll have fewer pills to keep track of. Or they could offer alternatives that help you steer clear of unwanted side effects.

Keep track of your test results

Ask for copies of your hospital and lab records and doctors' notes. This way, you can track your progress and watch for changes. And it gives you time to process vour health information.



You can track your health history in your online Member Portal or in the Aetna Better Health[®] app. Visit **AetnaBetterHealth.com/** louisiana/member-portal.html to get started.

Keep a symptom journal

It can be hard to keep track of symptoms, especially if they change or are unpredictable. But those details can help you and your provider make decisions about treatment and lifestyle changes.

Find a notebook or notepad to use as a symptom tracker. Write down what symptoms you have, how often you have them and how they make you feel. Share this information with your provider each time you meet.

Educate yourself

We're not talking about going back to high school or college. But you should try to learn as much as you can about the health conditions you have.

Ask your doctor to suggest reliable websites where you can find out more about the latest research and treatments. Once you understand your health situation better, it will be easier to ask the right questions at your doctor appointments.



Your dedicated care manager can help you find providers, manage appointments, learn about your health and more. We also have special programs that can help you manage certain health issues. Call Member Services at 1-855-242-0802 (TTY: 711) and ask to speak with a care manager to get started.



Your diabetes checkup checklist

Diabetes affects your whole body. But you can prevent serious problems with regular self-care and checkups. Use these guidelines from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to stay on top of your health.

Daily checks

Blood sugar. Talk to vour care team about how often to check your blood sugar at home. Write down your numbers and bring them with you to your appointments.

G Foot check. Call your care team if you notice any cuts, sores, blisters, redness or swelling on your feet.

Medications. Take your medicines as prescribed by your doctor.

Biannual checks

🔗 Dental exam. Keep vour teeth and gums healthy with twice-a-year cleanings. Tell your dentist you have diabetes.

A1C test. This blood test measures your average blood sugar levels over the past few months. Your care team may want to do this test more often.

O Doctor visit. Talk to your care team about how often you should see vour doctor.

Blood pressure. Get this checked every time you see your doctor.

Get support with the **Diabetes Care** Program

Diabetes can be a lot to handle alone. We're here to help you manage and treat your diabetes.

Your care manager will work with you and your providers to come up with a care plan to help you manage vour diabetes. You can even earn rewards for completing certain diabetes screenings.

To get started, call Member Services and ask to speak with care management.

Yearly checks

✓ Dilated eye exam.

A vearly eve exam can help find diabetes-related problems early, when they're easier to treat.

Kidney tests. Regular kidney checks can help prevent or slow kidney problems.

Cholesterol test. This helps monitor your risk of heart disease.

Complete foot check. Have your doctor do a full foot check at least once a year. They may refer you to a podiatrist (foot specialist) if needed.

Signs your "bad mood" could be something more serious

It's normal to feel angry or sad sometimes. But it can be hard to tell whether you're just in a funk or have a more serious issue. Here are four signs that it's time to reach out for help.



1 Your anxiety or sadness is hanging around

Anxiety or sadness can be a normal reaction to stressful situations or life events. But if those feelings stick around for more than several weeks and aren't getting better, it might be time to seek treatment.

2 You need a glass of wine

All addictive behaviors aim at soothing an uncomfortable feeling. That could mean turning to alcohol, prescription medicines or gambling to cope. Even endlessly scrolling through your phone can be a problem.

If you notice an increase in addictive or coping behaviors, it could be a sign of a bigger problem.

Help is here

Peer Support Services can help with mental health concerns and drug and alcohol use. Our Peer Support Specialists have real-life experience and can:

- Help you solve problems and build coping skills
- Go to appointments with you and help you talk to your provider
- Connect you with resources

You can ask your care manager to connect you to a Peer Support Specialist. Call Member Services at 1-855-242-0802 (TTY: 711).

3 You're struggling to keep up with responsibilities

Depression and anxiety can make it hard to stay on top of work, household chores and even personal hygiene. Any time your mood starts to interfere with your day-to-day life, that could be a sign that it's time to seek help.

4 Your health habits have changed

Conditions like anxiety and depression don't just cause changes in your mood. They're linked to plenty of other health issues, like gastrointestinal problems, headaches, trouble sleeping and changes in your appetite.

Talk to your primary care provider (PCP) if you notice any new health issues. They can help rule out any physical problems and refer you to a mental health provider if needed.

Stay safe in summer heat

Summertime usually means more fun in the sun. But high temperatures and humidity can be dangerous. Here's how to keep you and your family safe.

When it's hot, your body cools itself by sweating and increasing blood flow to the skin. But when it's really hot — 95 degress or higher — you're body may have a harder time staying cool. And that can lead to heatrelated illnessed like heat exhaustion or heat stroke.



How to prevent heatrelated illnesses

On hot, humid days, take these precautions to stay cool:

- If you can, avoid being outside during the hottest time of day. usually 10 am to 4 pm. Get out and exercise in the morning or evening instead.
- Stay in the shade as much as you can. Wear sunscreen and protective clothing, like a wide-brim hat and sunglasses.
- Drink plenty of fluids. even if you don't feel thirsty. Drink two to four glasses of water every hour when being active.
- Take breaks often.
- Never leave children or pets alone in a car.



Learn more about your plan with your Member Handbook. Visit aet.na/su24la-2 or scan the QR code to view it online. Or call Member Services at 1-855-242-0802 (TTY: 711) to have one mailed to you.



Get help in a crisis. If you are having emotional distress and need help right away, we are here for you. Call our 24-hour behavioral health crisis line at 1-833-491-1094 (TTY: 711).

HEALTHY LIVING

Signs of heat exhaustion	Signs of heat stroke
Heavy sweating	High body temperature (103°F or higher)
Cold, pale and clammy skin	Hot, red, dry or damp skin
Fast, weak pulse	Fast, strong pulse
Nausea	Dizziness
Muscle cramps	Nasuea or vomitting
Tiredness or weakness	Confusion
Dizziness	Fainting or loss of consciousness
Headache	Convulsions
What to do	What to do Heat stroke is a life-

Move to a cool place and loosen your clothes. Sip water and put wet, cool cloths on your body (or take a cool bath if possible). Get help if you are throwing up or your symptoms last longer than one hour.

Heat stroke is a lifethreatening emergency call **911** right away. Move the person to a cool place and loosen clothes. Put cool wet cloths or ice on neck, armpits and groin areas.

Nondiscrimination Notice

Aetna complies with applicable federal civil rights laws and does not discriminate based on race, color, national origin, age, disability or sex. Aetna does not exclude people or treat them differently because of race, color, national origin, age, disability or sex.

Aetna:

- Provides free aids and services to people with disabilities to communicate effectively with us, such as:
 - Qualified sign language interpreters
 - Written information in other formats (large print, audio, accessible electronic formats, other formats)
- Provides free language services to people whose primary language is not English, such as:
 - Qualified interpreters
 - Information written in other languages

If you need a qualified interpreter, written information in other formats, translation or other services, call the number on your ID card or **1-800-385-4104**. If you believe that Aetna has failed to provide these services or discriminated in another way based on race, color, national origin, age, disability or sex, you can file a grievance

with our Civil Rights Coordinator at:

Address: Attn: Civil Rights Coordinator P.O. Box 818001 Cleveland, OH 44181-8001 Telephone: 1-888-234-7358 (TTY 711) Email: MedicaidCRCoordinator@aetna.com

You can file a grievance in person or by mail or email. If you need help filing a grievance, our Civil Rights Coordinator is available to help you.

You can also file a civil rights complaint with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office for Civil Rights electronically through the Office for Civil Rights Complaint Portal, available at https://ocrportal.hhs.gov/ocr/portal/lobby.jsf, or by mail or phone at: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, 200 Independence Avenue, SW Room 509F, HHH Building, Washington, D.C. 20201, 1-800-368-1019, 1-800-537-7697 (TDD).

Complaint forms are available at http://www.hhs.gov/ocr/office/file/index.html.

Aetna is the brand name used for products and services provided by one or more of the Aetna group of subsidiary companies, including Aetna Life Insurance Company, and its affiliates.

Multi-language Interpreter Services

ENGLISH: ATTENTION: If you speak English, language assistance services, free of charge, are available to you. Call the number on the back of your ID card or **1-800-385-4104** (TTY: **711**).

SPANISH: ATENCIÓN: Si habla español, tiene a su disposición servicios gratuitos de asistencia lingüística. Llame al número que aparece en el reverso de su tarjeta de identificación o al **1-800-385-4104** (TTY: **711**).

FRENCH: ATTENTION: si vous parlez français, des services d'aide linguistique vous sont proposés gratuitement. Appelez le numéro indiqué au verso de votre carte d'identité ou le **1-800-385-4104** (ATS : **711**).

VIETNAMESE: CHÚ Ý: nếu bạn nói tiếng việt, có các dịch vụ hỗ trợ ngôn ngữ miễn phí dành cho bạn. Hãy gọi số có ở mặt sau thẻ id của bạn hoặc **1-800-385-4104** (TTY: **711**).

CHINESE: 注意:如果您使用繁體中文,您可以免費獲得語言援助服務。請致電您的 ID 卡背面的 電話號碼或 1-800-385-4104 (TTY: 711)。

ملحوظة: إذا كنت تتحدث باللغة العربية، فإن خدمات المساعدة اللغوية تتوافر لك بالمجان. اتصل على الرقم الموجود : ARABIC: خلف بطاقتك الشخصية أو عل 1-800-385-4104 (للصم والبكم: 711).

TAGALOG: PAUNAWA: Kung nagsasalita ka ng wikang Tagalog, mayroon kang magagamit na mga libreng serbisyo para sa tulong sa wika. Tumawag sa numero na nasa likod ng iyong ID card o sa **1-800-385-4104** (TTY: **711**).

KOREAN: 주의: 한국어를 사용하시는 경우, 언어 지원 서비스를 무료로 이용하실 수 있습니다. 귀하의 ID 카드 뒷면에 있는 번호로나 1-800-385-4104 (TTY: 711) 번으로 연락해 주십시오.

PORTUGUESE: ATENÇÃO: Se fala português, encontram-se disponíveis serviços linquísticos, grátis. Ligue para o número que se encontra na parte de trás do seu cartão de identificação ou **1-800-385-4104** (TTY: **711**).

LAOTIAN: ເຊີນຊາບ: ຖ້າວ່າທ່ານເວົ້າພາສາລາວ, ການບໍລິການຊ່ວຍເຫຼືອດ້ານພາສາ, ໂດຍບໍ່ເສຍຄ່າ, ແມ່ນມີພ້ອມໃຫ້ທ່ານ. ໂທຫາເບີໂທທີ່ຢູ່ດ້ານຫຼັງບັດປະຈຳຕົວຂອງທ່ານ ຫຼື **1-800-385-4104** (TTY: **711**).

JAPANESE: 注意事項:日本語をお話になる方は、無料で言語サポートのサービスをご利用いただけます。IDカード裏面の電話番号、または1-800-385-4104 (TTY: 711)までご連絡ください。

توجہ دیں: اگر آپ اردو زبان بولتے ہیں، تو زبان سے متعلق مدد کی خدمات آپ کے لئے مفت دستیاب ... URDU: ہیں - اپنے شناختی کارڈ کے پیچھے موجود نمبر پر یا 4104-385-380 (TTY: 711) پر رابطہ کریں۔

GERMAN: ACHTUNG: Wenn Sie deutschen sprechen, können Sie unseren kostenlosen Sprachservice nutzen. Rufen Sie die Nummer auf der Rückseite Ihrer ID-Karte oder **1-800-385-4104** (TTY: **711**) an.

، داشته **PERSIAN:** باس بگیرید.

RUSSIAN: ВНИМАНИЕ: если вы говорите на русском языке, вам могут предоставить бесплатные услуги перевода. Позвоните по номеру, указанному на обратной стороне вашей идентификационной карточки, или по номеру **1-800-385-4104** (ТТҮ: **711**).

THAI: ข้อควรระวัง: ถ้าคุณพูดภาษาไทย คุณสามารถใช้บริการช่วยเหลือทางภาษาได้ฟรี โทรติดต่อหมายเลขที่อยู่ด้านหลังบัตร เD ของคุณ หรือหมายเลข **1-800-385-4104** (TTY: **711**).

اگر به زبان فارسی صحبت می کنید، به صورت رایگان می توانید به خدمات کمک زبانی دسترسی داشته باشید. با شماره درج شده در پشت کارت شناسایی یا با شماره 4104-385-800 (TTY: 711) تماس بگیرید.



Aetna Better Health® of Louisiana 2400 Veterans Memorial Blvd, Suite 200 Kenner, LA 70062

<Recipient's Name>
<Mailing Address>

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Your back-to-school checklist

Summer break is a great time to get your or your child's "key health checks done. Schedule these appointments before heading back to school:

Annual well-child visit. School-aged kids should get a routine checkup once a year. They may need a physical exam to participate in sports or other activities, too.

Solution Immunizations. At the well-child visit, ask your child's doctor if they're due for any routine vaccines. Check with your child's school, too, to see if they require certain vaccines.

O Dental cleaning and exam. Experts recommend dentist visits every six months to prevent cavities and other problems.

Eye exam. Your child should have their vision checked every one to two years. If your child wears glasses, they may need to go to the eye doctor more often.





Get rewarded for well-child visits! Members 2 years and older can earn a \$20 incentive for completing an annual wellness exam. Call Member Services at **1-855-242-0802 (TTY: 711)** for more information.