

Early and Periodic Screening Diagnosis and Treatment (EPSDT/Bright Futures)

EPSDT/Bright Futures services are federally-mandated services. They are intended to provide preventive health care to medical assistance covered children and young adults ages newborn to 20.99.

All primary care providers (PCPs) who provide services to Medical Assistance recipients under age 21 are required to provide comprehensive health care, screening and preventive services. We require our network PCPs to provide all EPSDT/Bright Futures services in compliance with federal and state regulations and at intervals following the defined EPSDT/Bright Futures periodicity schedule.

Required EPSDT/Bright Futures visit screening services (also requiring a code entered into EPSDT/Bright Futures claim or a lab slip)

Aetna Better Health participating practitioners and providers are required to make the following screening services available to EPSDT-eligible recipients at the ages recommended on the periodicity schedule. If you are interested in using some recommended screening tools, please refer to the EPSDT/Bright Futures folder in the Quality Improvement Resources section of the Aetna Better Health of Pennsylvania website. You may access this information by clicking this link: [aetnabetterhealth.com/pennsylvania/assets/pdf/epsdt/DevelopmentalDelaysAndAutism-PA.pdf](https://www.aetnabetterhealth.com/pennsylvania/assets/pdf/epsdt/DevelopmentalDelaysAndAutism-PA.pdf)

- Anemia screening (between age 9-12 months)
- Structured developmental screening (between ages 9-11 months, again at age 18 months and again at age 30 months) using a validated screening tool
- Structured autism screening (at age 18 months and again at age 24 months)
- Visual acuity screening (annually ages 3-20.99)
- Hearing screening (annually ages 3-20.99)
- Dyslipidemia screening (once between ages 9 and 11 years and once between ages 17 and 20 years) other ages if indicated by history and/or symptoms
- Blood lead screening – All children should receive a screening blood lead test at twelve (12) months and twenty-four (24) months of age. Children between the ages of thirty-six (36) months and seventy-two (72) months of age with no record of a previous blood lead screening test must receive one.

Required codes

When billing an EPSDT/Bright Futures visit, utilize the appropriate Well-care CPT code, along with the Modifier “EP” to indicate a comprehensive EPSDT/Bright Futures visit occurred. All associated screening and lab codes should also be submitted.

- Well-care visit- 99381-99385 (New Patients), 99391-99395 (Established Patients)
- (plus EP Modifier when full EPSDT visit has been performed)
- Anemia screening- 85018
- Structured developmental screening- 96110
- Structured autism screening- 96110 U1
- Visual acuity screening- 99173
- Hearing screening- 92551, 92552
- Dyslipidemia screening- 80061
- Blood lead testing- 83655
- Depression screening 96127 (annually ages 12 -20.99)
- Maternal Depression screening 96160 (Newborn visit through 6 month visit)
- Dental referral- YD

Dental screening

The first examination and dental referral occurs at the time of the eruption of the first tooth. Dental risk assessments and referral to a dental home is a required component of the EPSDT/Bright Futures visit at ages 12 months, 18 months, 24 months and 30 months, and annually thereafter, or as indicated by the child's risk status/susceptibility to disease.

Providers should check for the following and initiate treatment or refer as necessary:

- Missing permanent teeth
- Oral infection
- Fillings present
- Other oral concerns

Also, you should:

- Document the dental referral in the child's medical record
- Document the referral to the dental home in the child's medical record
- Enter the EPSDT referral code YD in field 10d on the CMS 1500 claim form

Problems suspected during screening exam

You must refer any child under the age of 5 years with a suspected developmental problem (and not already receiving Early Intervention Services) to PA CONNECT at **1-800-692-7288** for appropriate referral to local Early Intervention Services.

You should refer children age 5 and older to the right specialist for further diagnosis and treatment.

Early Intervention Services may include:

- Assistive technology (devices a child might need)
- Nursing services
- Audiology and hearing services
- Nutrition services
- Speech and language services
- Occupational therapy
- Counseling and training for a family
- Physical therapy
- Medical services
- Psychological services

When you make a referral, be sure to enter the right EPSDT referral code into line 10d of the CMS 1500.

EPSDT/Bright Futures referral codes (enter on line 10d of CMS 1500)

YD- Dental Referral

YM- Medical Referral

YB- Behavioral Health Referral

YV- Vision Referral

YH- Hearing Referral

YO- Other Referral

Fluoride in the PCP office

You can apply dental fluoride in the PCP office at eruption of first tooth, through age 16 years (Medicaid) no age restriction (CHIP), up to four times per year. You can get extra reimbursement for fluoride application. Use code **99188 (CPT)**.

More EPSDT/Bright Futures required screenings not requiring coding into claim

- Developmental surveillance- newborn through age 20.99, every EPSDT visit, except where structured developmental screening is required
- Psychosocial/behavioral assessment- newborn through age 20.99, every EPSDT visit
- Tobacco, alcohol and drug use assessment- annually through risk assessment, ages 11-20.99 96160

Testing as indicated by history or symptoms

If indicated by history and/or symptoms, you can order the following tests as part of EPSDT/Bright Futures:

- Tuberculin test
- Sickle Cell
- Sexually transmitted infections
- HIV Screening (ages 11 through 20.99 years)
- Dyslipidemia
- Anemia (ages 15 months through 20.99 years)

Strategies for improvement

- Utilize NCQA coding tips to actively reflect care rendered
- Educate staff to schedule visits within the guideline timeframes
- Outreach parents to schedule their child's Well-Child exam
- Exam requirements can be performed during sick visits or a Well-Child exam
- Never miss an opportunity to perform a Well-Child exam, even during a sick visit

Documentation required

Document all screenings and developmental surveillances performed in the medical record, including follow-ups, results, and anticipatory guidance given. The medical record must include documentation indicating that a Developmental Screening was performed with a validated screening tool at 9-11 months, 18 months and 30 months.

Numerator codes

There is a large list of approved NCQA codes used to identify the services included in EPSDT/Bright Futures. Please see the attached document for a few of the approved codes. For a complete list please refer to the NCQA website at www.ncqa.org.

