Chapter 182-534 WAC  
EARLY AND PERIODIC SCREENING, DIAGNOSIS AND TREATMENT (EPSDT)

WAC 182-534-0100  EPSDT.  (1) Persons who are eligible for Medicaid are eligible for coverage through the early and periodic screening, diagnosis, and treatment (EPSDT) program up through the day before their twenty-first birthday.

(2) Access and services for EPSDT are governed by federal rules at 42 CFR, Part 441, Subpart B which were in effect as of January 1, 1998.

(a) The standard for coverage for EPSDT is that the services, treatment or other measures are:

(i) Medically necessary;

(ii) Safe and effective; and

(iii) Not experimental.

(b) EPSDT services are exempt from specific coverage or service limitations which are imposed on the rest of the CN and MN program. Examples of service limits which do not apply to the EPSDT program are the specific numerical limits in WAC 388-545-300, 388-545-500, and 388-545-700.

(c) Services not otherwise covered under the Medicaid program are available to children under EPSDT. The services, treatments and other measures which are available include but are not limited to:

(i) Nutritional counseling;

(ii) Chiropractic care;

(iii) Orthodontics; and

(iv) Occupational therapy (not otherwise covered under the MN program).

(d) Prior authorization and referral requirements are imposed on medical service providers under EPSDT. Such requirements are designed as tools for determining that a service, treatment or other measure meets the standards in subsection (2)(a) of this section.

(3) Transportation requirements of 42 CFR 441, Subpart B are met through a contract with transportation brokers throughout the state.

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WAC 182-534-0200  Enhanced payments for EPSDT screens for children in out-of-home placement. The department reimburses providers an enhanced fee for EPSDT screens provided to children in out-of-home placement. See the department’s EPSDT billing instructions for specific billing code requirements and the fee.

(1) For the purposes of this section, out-of-home placement is defined as twenty-four hour per day, temporary, substitute care for a child:

(a) Placed away from the child's parents or guardians in licensed, paid, out-of-home care; and

(b) For whom the department or a licensed or certified child placing agency has placement and care responsibility.

(2) The department pays an enhanced fee to the providers listed in subsection (3) of this section for EPSDT screens provided to only those children in out-of-home placement.

(3) The following providers are eligible to perform EPSDT screens and bill the enhanced rate for children in out-of-home placement:

(a) EPSDT clinics;

(b) Physicians;

(c) Advanced registered nurse practitioners (ARNPs);

(d) Physician assistants (PAs) working under the guidance of a physician;

(e) Nurses specially trained through the department of health (DOH) to perform EPSDT screens; and

(f) Registered nurses working under the guidance of a physician or ARNP.

(4) In order to be paid an enhanced fee, services furnished by the providers listed in subsection (3) of this section must meet the federal requirements for EPSDT screens at 42 CFR Part 441 Subpart B, which were in effect as of December 1, 2001.

(5) The provider must retain documentation of the EPSDT screens in the client’s medical file. The provider must use the department's Well Child Exam forms or provide equivalent information. The Well Child Exam forms include the required elements for an EPSDT screen. The Well Child Exam forms (DSHS 13-683A through 13-686B) are available for downloading at no charge at http://www1.dshs.wa.gov/msa/forms/eforms.html.

(6) The department conducts evaluations of client files and payments made under this program. The department may recover the enhanced payment amount when:

(a) The client was not in out-of-home placement as defined in subsection (1) of this section when the EPSDT screen was provided; or

(b) Documentation was not in the client's medical file (see subsection (5) of this section).

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