



ACA Requirements for Coverage of Preventive Health Services

This information is based on HMAA's review of national health care reform legislation. HMAA reviews resources annually in August and makes benefit plan updates effective the following January 1. The references provided reflect information published as of the month of August.

This information is intended for educational purposes and should not be used as tax, legal or compliance advice. Interpretations of the legislation may vary, and some regulations differ for particular members enrolled in certain groups. Recommendations are subject to limitations, exclusions and administrative guidelines.

For confirmation of benefits or clarification, please call our Customer Service Center at (808) 941-4622 or toll-free at (888) 941-4622.

(continued)

14. Screen for behavioral and social-emotional problems per “Promoting Optimal Development: Screening for Behavioral and Emotional Problems” (<https://doi.org/10.1542/peds.2014-3716>), “Mental Health Competencies for Pediatric Practice” (<https://doi.org/10.1542/peds.2019-2757>), “Clinical Practice Guideline for the Assessment and Treatment of Children and Adolescents With Anxiety Disorders” (<https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/32439401>), and “Screening for Anxiety in Adolescent and Adult Women: A Recommendation From the Women’s Preventive Services Initiative” (<https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/32510990>). The screening should be family centered and may include asking about caregiver emotional and mental health concerns and social determinants of health, racism, poverty, and relational health. See “Poverty and Child Health in the United States” (<https://doi.org/10.1542/peds.2016-0339>), “The Impact of Racism on Child and Adolescent Health” (<https://doi.org/10.1542/peds.2019-1765>), and “Preventing Childhood Toxic Stress: Partnering With Families and Communities to Promote Relational Health” (<https://doi.org/10.1542/peds.2021-052582>).
15. A recommended assessment tool is available at <http://craftt.org>.
16. Screen adolescents for depression and suicide risk, making every effort to preserve confidentiality of the adolescent. See “Guidelines for Adolescent Depression in Primary Care (GLAD-PC): Part I. Practice Preparation, Identification, Assessment, and Initial Management” (<https://doi.org/10.1542/peds.2017-4081>), “Mental Health Competencies for Pediatric Practice” (<https://doi.org/10.1542/peds.2019-2757>), “Suicide and Suicide Attempts in Adolescents” (<https://doi.org/10.1542/peds.2016-1420>), and “The 21st Century Cures Act & Adolescent Confidentiality” ([https://www.adolescenthealth.org/Advocacy/Advocacy-Activities/2019-\(1\)/NASPAG-SAHM-Statement.aspx](https://www.adolescenthealth.org/Advocacy/Advocacy-Activities/2019-(1)/NASPAG-SAHM-Statement.aspx)).
17. At each visit, age-appropriate physical examination is essential, with infant totally unclothed and older children undressed and suitably draped. See “Use of Chaperones During the Physical Examination of the Pediatric Patient” (<https://doi.org/10.1542/peds.2011-0322>).
18. These may be modified, depending on entry point into schedule and individual need.
19. Confirm initial screen was accomplished, verify results, and follow up, as appropriate. The Recommended Uniform Screening Panel (<https://www.hrsa.gov/advisory-committees/heritable-disorders/rusp/index.html>), as determined by Children The Secretary’s Advisory Committee on Heritable Disorders in Newborns and Children, and state newborn screening laws/regulations (<https://www.babysfirsttest.org/>) establish the criteria for and coverage of newborn screening procedures and programs.
20. Verify results as soon as possible, and follow up, as appropriate.
21. Confirm initial screening was accomplished, verify results, and follow up, as appropriate. See “Hyperbilirubinemia in the Newborn Infant ≥35 Weeks’ Gestation: An Update With Clarifications” (<https://doi.org/10.1542/peds.2009-0329>).
22. Screening for critical congenital heart disease using pulse oximetry should be performed in newborns, after 24 hours of age, before discharge from the hospital, per “Endorsement of Health and Human Services Recommendation for Pulse Oximetry Screening for Critical Congenital Heart Disease” (<https://doi.org/10.1542/peds.2011-3211>).
23. Schedules, per the AAP Committee on Infectious Diseases, are available at <https://publications.aap.org/redbook/pages/immunization-schedules>. Every visit should be an opportunity to update and complete a child’s immunizations.
24. Perform risk assessment or screening, as appropriate, per recommendations in the current edition of the AAP *Pediatric Nutrition: Policy of the American Academy of Pediatrics* (Iron chapter).
25. For children at risk of lead exposure, see “Prevention of Childhood Lead Toxicity” (<https://doi.org/10.1542/peds.2016-1493>) and “Low Level Lead Exposure Harms Children: A Renewed Call for Primary Prevention” (https://www.cdc.gov/nceh/lead/docs/final_document_030712.pdf).
26. Perform risk assessments or screenings as appropriate, based on universal screening requirements for patients with Medicaid or in high prevalence areas.
27. Tuberculosis testing per recommendations of the AAP Committee on Infectious Diseases, published in the current edition of the AAP *Red Book: Report of the Committee on Infectious Diseases*. Testing should be performed on recognition of high-risk factors.
28. See “Integrated Guidelines for Cardiovascular Health and Risk Reduction in Children and Adolescents” (http://www.nhlbi.nih.gov/guidelines/cvd_ped/index.htm).
29. Adolescents should be screened for sexually transmitted infections (STIs) per recommendations in the current edition of the AAP *Red Book: Report of the Committee on Infectious Diseases*.
30. Adolescents should be screened for HIV according to the US Preventive Services Task Force (USPSTF) recommendations (<https://www.uspreventiveservicestaskforce.org/uspstf/recommendation/human-immunodeficiency-virus-hiv-infection-screening>) once between the ages of 15 and 18, making every effort to preserve confidentiality of the adolescent. Those at increased risk of HIV infection, including those who are sexually active, participate in injection drug use, or are being tested for other STIs, should be tested for HIV and reassessed annually.
31. Perform a risk assessment for hepatitis B virus (HBV) infection according to recommendations per the USPSTF (<https://www.uspreventiveservicestaskforce.org/uspstf/recommendation/hepatitis-b-virus-infection-screening>) and in the 2021–2024 edition of the AAP *Red Book: Report of the Committee on Infectious Diseases*, making every effort to preserve confidentiality of the patient.
32. All individuals should be screened for hepatitis C virus (HCV) infection according to the USPSTF (<https://www.uspreventiveservicestaskforce.org/uspstf/recommendation/hepatitis-c-screening>) and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommendations (<https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/69/rr/r6902a1.htm>) at least once between the ages of 18 and 79. Those at increased risk of HCV infection, including those who are persons with past or current injection drug use, should be tested for HCV infection and reassessed annually.
33. Perform a risk assessment, as appropriate, per “Sudden Death in the Young: Information for the Primary Care Provider” (<https://doi.org/10.1542/peds.2021-052044>).
34. See USPSTF recommendations (<https://www.uspreventiveservicestaskforce.org/uspstf/recommendation/cervical-cancer-screening>). Indications for pelvic examinations prior to age 21 are noted in “Gynecologic Examination for Adolescents in the Pediatric Office Setting” (<https://doi.org/10.1542/peds.2010-1564>).
35. Assess whether the child has a dental home. If no dental home is identified, perform a risk assessment (<https://www.aap.org/en/patient-care/oral-health/oral-health-practice-tools/>) and refer to a dental home. Recommend brushing with fluoride toothpaste in the proper dosage for age. See “Maintaining and Improving the Oral Health of Young Children” (<https://doi.org/10.1542/peds.2014-2984>).
36. Perform a risk assessment (<https://www.aap.org/en/patient-care/oral-health/oral-health-practice-tools/>). See “Maintaining and Improving the Oral Health of Young Children” (<https://doi.org/10.1542/peds.2014-2984>).
37. The USPSTF recommends that primary care clinicians apply fluoride varnish to the primary teeth of all infants and children starting at the age of primary tooth eruption (<https://www.uspreventiveservicestaskforce.org/uspstf/recommendation/prevention-of-dental-caries-in-children-younger-than-age-5-years-screening-and-interventions1>). Once teeth are present, apply fluoride varnish to all children every 3 to 6 months in the primary care or dental office based on caries risk. Indications for fluoride use are noted in “Fluoride Use in Caries Prevention in the Primary Care Setting” (<https://doi.org/10.1542/peds.2020-034637>).
38. If primary water source is deficient in fluoride, consider oral fluoride supplementation. See “Fluoride Use in Caries Prevention in the Primary Care Setting” (<https://doi.org/10.1542/peds.2020-034637>).

Summary of Changes Made to the Bright Futures/AAP Recommendations for Preventive Pediatric Health Care (Periodicity Schedule)

This schedule reflects changes approved in November 2021 and published in July 2022. For updates and a list of previous changes made, visit www.aap.org/periodicityschedule.

CHANGES MADE IN NOVEMBER 2021

HEPATITIS B VIRUS INFECTION

Assessing risk for HBV infection has been added to occur from newborn to 21 years (to account for the range in which the risk assessment can take place) to be consistent with recommendations of the USPSTF and the 2021–2024 edition of the AAP *Red Book: Report of the Committee on Infectious Diseases*.

- Footnote 31 has been added to read as follows: “Perform a risk assessment for hepatitis B virus (HBV) infection according to recommendations per the USPSTF (<https://www.uspreventiveservicestaskforce.org/uspstf/recommendation/hepatitis-b-virus-infection-screening>) and in the 2021–2024 edition of the AAP *Red Book: Report of the Committee on Infectious Diseases*, making every effort to preserve confidentiality of the patient.”

SUDDEN CARDIAC ARREST AND SUDDEN CARDIAC DEATH

Assessing risk for sudden cardiac arrest and sudden cardiac death has been added to occur from 11 to 21 years (to account for the range in which the risk assessment can take place) to be consistent with AAP policy (“Sudden Death in the Young: Information for the Primary Care Provider”).

- Footnote 33 has been added to read as follows: “Perform a risk assessment, as appropriate, per ‘Sudden Death in the Young: Information for the Primary Care Provider’ (<https://doi.org/10.1542/peds.2021-052044>).”

DEPRESSION AND SUICIDE RISK

Screening for suicide risk has been added to the existing depression screening recommendation to be consistent with the GLAD-PC and AAP policy.

- Footnote 16 has been updated to read as follows: “Screen adolescents for depression and suicide risk, making every effort to preserve confidentiality of the adolescent. See ‘Guidelines for Adolescent Depression in Primary Care (GLAD-PC): Part I. Practice Preparation, Identification, Assessment, and Initial Management’ (<https://doi.org/10.1542/peds.2017-4081>), ‘Mental Health Competencies for Pediatric Practice’ (<https://doi.org/10.1542/peds.2019-2757>), ‘Suicide and Suicide Attempts in Adolescents’ (<https://doi.org/10.1542/peds.2016-1420>), and ‘The 21st Century Cures Act & Adolescent Confidentiality’ ([https://www.adolescenthealth.org/Advocacy/Advocacy-Activities/2019-\(1\)/NASPAG-SAHM-Statement.aspx](https://www.adolescenthealth.org/Advocacy/Advocacy-Activities/2019-(1)/NASPAG-SAHM-Statement.aspx)).”

BEHAVIORAL/SOCIAL/EMOTIONAL

The Psychosocial/Behavioral Assessment recommendation has been updated to Behavioral/Social/Emotional Screening (annually from newborn to 21 years) to align with AAP policy, the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (Women’s Preventive Services Initiative) recommendations, and the American Academy of Child & Adolescent Psychiatry guidelines.

- Footnote 14 has been updated to read as follows: “Screen for behavioral and social-emotional problems per ‘Promoting Optimal Development: Screening for Behavioral and Emotional Problems’ (<https://doi.org/10.1542/peds.2014-3716>), ‘Mental Health Competencies for Pediatric Practice’ (<https://doi.org/10.1542/peds.2019-2757>), ‘Clinical Practice Guideline for the Assessment and Treatment of Children and Adolescents With Anxiety Disorders’ (<https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/32439401>), and ‘Screening for Anxiety in Adolescent and Adult Women: A Recommendation From the Women’s Preventive Services Initiative’ (<https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/32510990/>). The screening should be family centered and may include asking about caregiver emotional and mental health concerns and social

determinants of health, racism, poverty, and relational health. See ‘Poverty and Child Health in the United States’ (<https://doi.org/10.1542/peds.2016-0339>), ‘The Impact of Racism on Child and Adolescent Health’ (<https://doi.org/10.1542/peds.2019-1765>), and ‘Preventing Childhood Toxic Stress: Partnering With Families and Communities to Promote Relational Health’ (<https://doi.org/10.1542/peds.2021-052582>).”

FLUORIDE VARNISH

- Footnote 37 has been updated to read as follows: “The USPSTF recommends that primary care clinicians apply fluoride varnish to the primary teeth of all infants and children starting at the age of primary tooth eruption (<https://www.uspreventiveservicestaskforce.org/uspstf/recommendation/prevention-of-dental-caries-in-children-younger-than-age-5-years-screening-and-interventions1>). Once teeth are present, apply fluoride varnish to all children every 3 to 6 months in the primary care or dental office based on caries risk. Indications for fluoride use are noted in ‘Fluoride Use in Caries Prevention in the Primary Care Setting’ (<https://doi.org/10.1542/peds.2020-034637>).”

FLUORIDE SUPPLEMENTATION

- Footnote 38 has been updated to read as follows: “If primary water source is deficient in fluoride, consider oral fluoride supplementation. See ‘Fluoride Use in Caries Prevention in the Primary Care Setting’ (<https://doi.org/10.1542/peds.2020-034637>).”

CHANGES MADE IN NOVEMBER 2020

DEVELOPMENTAL

- Footnote 12 has been updated to read as follows: “Screening should occur per ‘Promoting Optimal Development: Identifying Infant and Young Children With Developmental Disorders Through Developmental Surveillance and Screening’ (<https://doi.org/10.1542/peds.2019-3449>).”

AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDER

- Footnote 13 has been updated to read as follows: “Screening should occur per ‘Identification, Evaluation, and Management of Children With Autism Spectrum Disorder’ (<https://doi.org/10.1542/peds.2019-3447>).”

HEPATITIS C VIRUS INFECTION

- Screening for HCV infection has been added to occur at least once between the ages of 18 and 79 years (to be consistent with recommendations of the USPSTF and CDC).
- Footnote 32 has been added to read as follows: “All individuals should be screened for hepatitis C virus (HCV) infection according to the USPSTF (<https://www.uspreventiveservicestaskforce.org/uspstf/recommendation/hepatitis-c-screening>) and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommendations (<https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/69/rr/r6902a1.htm>) at least once between the ages of 18 and 79. Those at increased risk of HCV infection, including those who are persons with past or current injection drug use, should be tested for HCV infection and reassessed annually.”



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