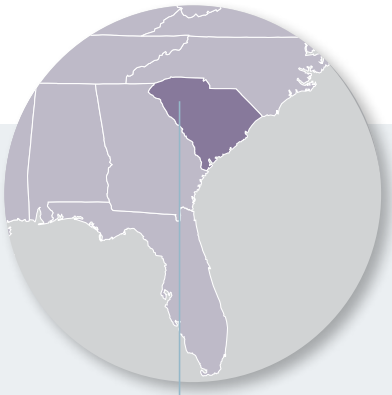
Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnosis and Treatment (EPSDT)



SOUTH CAROLINA (SC)

Medicaid's EPSDT benefit provides comprehensive health care services to children under age 21, with an emphasis on prevention, early detection, and medically necessary treatment. Each state Medicaid program establishes a periodicity schedule for physical, mental, developmental, vision, hearing, dental, and other screenings for infants, children, and adolescents to correct and ameliorate health conditions.

Bright Futures is a national health promotion and prevention initiative, led by the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) and supported by the Maternal and Child Health Bureau (MCHB), Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA). The *Bright Futures Guidelines for Health Supervision of Infants, Children, and Adolescents* (4th Edition)[1] and the corresponding Bright Futures/AAP Recommendations for Preventive Pediatric Health Care (Periodicity Schedule)[2] provide theory-based and evidence-driven guidance for all preventive care screenings and health supervision visits through age 21. Bright Futures is recognized in federal law as the standard for pediatric preventive health insurance coverage.[3] The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) encourages state Medicaid agencies to use this nationally recognized Bright Futures/AAP Periodicity Schedule or consult with recognized medical organizations involved in child health care in developing their EPSDT periodicity schedule of pediatric preventive care.[4,5] The following analysis of South Carolina's EPSDT benefit was conducted by the AAP to promote the use of Bright Futures as the professional standard for pediatric preventive care.

South Carolina's profile compares the state's 2018 Medicaid EPSDT benefit with the *Bright Futures: Guidelines for Health Supervision of Infants, Children, and Adolescents*, 4th Edition, and the Bright Futures/AAP Recommendations for Preventive Pediatric Health Care (Periodicity Schedule) published in *Pediatrics* in April 2017.[2] This state profile also contains information about South Carolina's 2016 Medicaid pediatric preventive care quality measures and performance based on the state's voluntary reporting on selected Child Core Set measures. Information about the state Medicaid medical necessity definition used for EPSDT and a promising practice related to pediatric preventive care is also found here. South Carolina's profile is based on a review of the state's Medicaid website, provider manual, and other referenced state documents, and an analysis of 2016 state Medicaid data reported to CMS on child health quality.[6] This profile was also reviewed by state Medicaid EPSDT officials. Information is current as of March 2018.

Summary of Findings

- South Carolina's 2018 EPSDT requirements follow the Bright Futures/AAP Periodicity Schedule and screening recommendations.
- South Carolina's definition of medical necessity for EPSDT, described below, does not include a preventive purpose.
  - "Medically Necessary" means that the service (the provision of which may be limited by specific manual provisions, bulletins, and other directives) is directed toward the maintenance, improvement, or protection of health or toward the diagnosis and treatment of illness or disability.
- According to CMS, in 2016, South Carolina selected 8 of the 10 pediatric preventive care measures in the Child Core Set. The measures not selected were childhood and adolescent immunizations.
- South Carolina's performance rates were higher than the national average for preventive dental services, as shown in the table below. The following pediatric preventive care measures were lower than the national average: PCP visits for children and adolescents, well care visits for children in the first 15 months of age, ages 3 to 6 years, and ages 12 and 21; chlamydia screening; HPV vaccinations; and BMI documentation.
- South Carolina's preventive care performance improvement projects relate to well child and adolescent visits.

Promising Practice

South Carolina created a new web page for EPSDT, which will be their "one-stop" location for all EPSDT information needed by both consumers and health care providers. This effort has been done in partnership with SC Family Connections to ensure that member's perspectives are addressed. South Carolina has also developed a separate Oral Health section of the Periodicity Schedule, which are defined as those services performed by qualified healthcare professionals that are neither a dentist nor supervised by one.

Comparison of SC EPSDT and AAP/Bright Futures Periodicity Schedules

The following tables provide information on South Carolina's EPSDT periodicity schedule and screening recommendations by age group, comparing 2018 South Carolina Medicaid EPSDT requirements with the 2017 Bright Futures/AAP Recommendations for Preventive Pediatric Health Care.[2]

Code

U = Universal (all screened)
S = Selective screening (only those of higher risk
U/S = Universal and selective requirement

See Bright Futures/AAP Periodicity Schedule for complete information.

Number of Well Child Visits by Age	SC EPSDT	Bright Futures
- Birth through 9 months	7	7
- 1 through 4 years	7	7
- 5 through 10 years	6	6
- 11 through 14 years	4	4
- 15 through 20 years	6	6

Universal (U) and Selected (S) Screening Requirements	SC EPSDT	Bright Futures
Infancy (Birth-9 months)		
- Length/height & weight	U	U
- Head circumference	U	U
- Weight for length	U	U
- Blood pressure	S	S
- Vision	S	S
- Hearing	U/S	U/S
- Developmental screening	U	U
- Developmental surveillance	U	U
- Psychosocial/behavioral assessment	U	U
- Maternal depression screening	U	U
- Newborn blood screening	U	U
- Critical congenital heart screening	U	U
- Anemia	S	S
- Lead	S	S
- Tuberculosis	S	S
- Oral health	U	U
- Fluoride varnish	U	U
- Fluoride supplementation	S	S

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Comparison of SC EPSDT and AAP/Bright Futures Periodicity Schedules *continued*

Code

U = Universal (all screened)
S = Selective screening (only those of higher risk
U/S = Universal and selective requirement

See Bright Futures/AAP Periodicity Schedule for complete information.

Universal (U) and Selected (S) Screening Requirements	SC EPSDT	Bright Futures
Early Childhood (Ages 1-4)		
- Length/height & weight	U	U
- Head circumference	U	U
- Weight for length	U	U
- Body mass index	U	U
- Blood pressure	U/S	U/S
- Vision	U/S	U/S
- Hearing	U/S	U/S
- Developmental screening	U	U
- Autism spectrum disorder screening	U	U
- Developmental surveillance	U	U
- Psychosocial/behavioral assessment	U	U
- Anemia	U/S	U/S
- Lead	U/S	U/S
- Tuberculosis	S	S
- Dyslipidemia	S	S
- Oral health	U	S
- Fluoride varnish	U	U
- Fluoride supplementation	S	S
Middle Childhood (Ages 5-10)		
- Length/height & weight	U	U
- Body mass index	U	U
- Blood pressure	U	U
- Vision	U/S	U/S
- Hearing	U/S	U/S
- Developmental surveillance	U	U
- Psychosocial/behavioral assessment	U	U
- Anemia	S	S
- Lead	S	S
- Tuberculosis	S	S
- Dyslipidemia	U/S	U/S
- Oral health	U	S
- Fluoride varnish	U	U
- Fluoride supplementation	S	S
Adolescence (Ages 11-20)		
- Length/height & weight	U	U
- Body mass index	U	U
- Blood pressure	U	U
- Vision	U/S	U/S
- Hearing	U	U
- Developmental surveillance	U	U
- Psychosocial/behavioral assessment	U	U
- Tobacco, alcohol or drug use assessment	S	S
- Depression screening	U	U
- Anemia	S	S
- Tuberculosis	S	S
- Dyslipidemia	U/S	U/S
- Sexually transmitted infections	S	S
- HIV	U/S	U/S
- Oral health	U/S	U/S
- Fluoride varnish	U	U
- Fluoride supplementation	S	S

Pediatric Preventive Care Quality Measures, Performance, and Financial Incentives

Included in the tables below are South Carolina's 2016 quality performance information on pediatric preventive care measures reported to CMS[6], as well as their use of financial incentives for pediatric preventive care.

Pediatric Preventive Care Quality Measures and Performance, 2016 Child Core Set	SC	US
- % of children with primary care visit		
• Ages 12-24 months (in past year)	94.1	95.2
• Ages 25 months-6 years (in past year)	82.5	87.7
• Ages 7-11 (in past 2 years)	87.7	90.9
• Ages 12-19 (in past 2 years)	85.3	89.6
- % of children by 15 months receiving 6 or more well-child visits	54.2	60.8
- % of children ages 3-6 with one or more well-child visits	55.2	68
- % of adolescents ages 12-21 receiving 1 well care visit	32.7	45.1
- % of children by 2nd birthday up-to-date on recommended immunizations (combination 3)	—	68.5
- % of adolescents by 13th birthday up-to-date on recommended immunizations (combination 1)	—	70.3
- % of sexually active women ages 16-20 screened for chlamydia	47.9	48.8
- % of female adolescents by 13th birthday receiving 3 HPV doses	6.3	20.8
- % of children ages 3-17 whose BMI was documented in medical records	18.8	61.2
- % of children ages 1-20 with at least 1 preventive dental service	49.5	48.2

Pediatric Preventive Care Financial Incentives, 2016	SC	US
- Use of preventive incentives for consumers	No	NA
- Use of performance incentives for providers	Yes	NA

References

[1] Hagan JF, Shaw JS, Duncan PM, eds. *Bright Futures: Guidelines for Health Supervision of Infants, Children, and Adolescents*. 4th ed. Elk Grove Village, IL: American Academy of Pediatrics, 2017.

[2] Committee on Practice and Ambulatory Medicine, Bright Futures Periodicity Schedule Work Group. 2017 Recommendations for Preventive Pediatric Health Care. *Pediatrics*. 2017;139(4):e20170254.

[3] *FAQs about Affordable Care Act Implementation*. Washington, DC: US Department of Labor, Employee Benefits Security Administration, May 11, 2015.

[4] *EPSDT – A Guide for State: Coverage in the Medicaid Benefit for Children and Adolescents*. Baltimore, MD: Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, June 2014.

[5] *Paving the Road to Good Health: Strategies for Increasing Medicaid Adolescent Well-Care Visits*. Baltimore, MD: Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, February 2014.

[6] Quality information from the CMS Medicaid/CHIP child core set for federal fiscal year 2016 was obtained from: https://data.medicaid.gov/Quality/2016-Child-Health-Care-Quality-Measures/wnw8-atzy.

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This project was supported by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) under UC4MC28034 Alliance for Innovation on Maternal and Child Health. This information or content and conclusions are those of the author and should not be construed as the official position or policy of, nor should any endorsements be inferred by HRSA, HHS or the U.S. Government.

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