



## Maximize Reimbursement and Minimize Missed Opportunities: Make Sure Kids and Teens are Up to Date with EPSDT (Well) Screenings

May 23, 2016

Care1st staff is working hard to get children and teens into your office for well visits according to the AHCCCS EPSDT Periodicity Schedule. This schedule is available at [www.care1st.com/az](http://www.care1st.com/az) in the following location: Care1st > Providers > Practice & Preventive Health Guidelines.

The following **three tips** can increase your rate of well visits by Care1st members, increase reimbursement for your practice, and reduce the number of claims your practice submits:

- Don't wait until the member's birthday to schedule a comprehensive well visit or until a year has passed since the last well visit.** Care1st will reimburse your practice for the visit even if it's been less than a year since the last well visit.
- When a Care1st member under the age of 21 presents for a problem/illness,** use the opportunity to provide the additional services included in an EPSDT (well) visit, and **get paid for both the sick and well visit.**
  - Use the age-appropriate EPSDT Tracking Form to make sure you provide all the required components of a well visit.
  - Bill modifier 25 (separate identifiable E&M service) with the sick visit CPT code (99202-99205 99213-99215) when billed with an EPSDT visit code (99381-99385, 99391-99395)\*. Both visits must be billed on the same claim form.
  - When immunizations are billed, modifier 25 is also required to be billed with the EPSDT visit code (99381-99385, 99391-99395).
  - \*The EPSDT visit is reimbursed at 100% of the applicable fee schedule and the sick visit is reimbursed at 50% of the applicable fee schedule.
- Use the correct preventive medicine code for the well visit:**

New Patient	CPT Codes	Established Patient	CPT Codes
Ages 0-12 Months	99381	Ages 0-12 Months	99391
Ages 1-4 Years	99382	Ages 3-4 Years	99392
Ages 5-11 Years	99383	Ages 5-11 Years	99393
Ages 12-17 Years	99384	Ages 12-17 Years	99394
Ages 18-20 Years	99385	Ages 18-20 Years	99395

- Be sure to use the correct code for the child's age on the date of service.
- Bill the EP Modifier with the EPSDT visit code (CPT codes 99381 – 99385, 99391 – 99395). The EP modifier should also be used to designate *all services related to the EPSDT well child visit, including routine vision and hearing screenings*.
- When a sick visit (99202-99205, 99213-99215) is billed, be sure to use the correct ICD-10 diagnosis code in conjunction with the CPT-4 code, e.g., Z00.129, *Encounter for routine child health examination without abnormal findings*; Z00.121, *Encounter for routine child health examination with abnormal findings*.

Additional information on Reimbursement of EPSDT, Sick Visits, and Vaccine Reminders is in our Nov. 3, 2015 blast fax available at [www.care1st.com/az](http://www.care1st.com/az): Care1st > Providers > Blast Faxes.

**If you have questions, contact Maritza Jimenez, LPN, MCH/EPSDT Supervisor, at 602.474.1365.**

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