



**TO:** Physicians and Independent Clinics

**SUBJECT:** Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnosis and Treatment (EPSDT) and Pediatric HealthStart program changes regarding:

- a) screening requirements;
- b) new claim form (MC-19 (9/91));
- c) new procedure codes and fee schedule for EPSDT and pediatric HealthStart screening examinations

**EFFECTIVE:** Immediately with claims submission to Unisys

**BACKGROUND:** EPSDT is a federally mandated comprehensive child health program for Medicaid recipients from birth through 20 years of age. HealthStart (pediatric services) is an expanded EPSDT package for children under 2 years of age. EPSDT providers who agree to render additional services may apply to the New Jersey State Department of Health to become certified as HealthStart providers. In recognition of their increased responsibilities, HealthStart providers are eligible for an enhanced reimbursement.

The Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1989 (OBRA '89) defines EPSDT services. Accordingly, the term EPSDT Services means the following:

- . EPSDT Screening Services
- . Vision Services
- . Dental Services
- . Hearing Services
- . Such other necessary health care, diagnostic services, treatment, and other measures to correct or ameliorate defects, and physical and mental illnesses and conditions discovered by the screening services.

Components of the EPSDT Screening are as follows:

1. A comprehensive health and developmental history including assessment of both physical and mental health development.

2. A comprehensive unclothed physical examination including
  - vision and hearing screening,
  - dental inspection, and
  - nutritional assessment.
3. Appropriate immunizations according to age and health history
4. Appropriate laboratory tests
  - hemoglobin/hematocrit
  - urinalysis
  - tuberculin test
  - lead screening (must be done annually for children between 9 months and 6 years of age)
  - other appropriate medically necessary procedures
5. Health education/anticipatory guidance
6. Referral for further diagnosis and treatment or follow-up of all correctable abnormalities uncovered or suspected (Referral may be to the provider conducting the screening examination, or to another provider, as appropriate.)

EPSDT screening services should be provided periodically according to the following schedule which reflects the age of child:

- under 6 weeks
- 2 months
- 4 months
- 6 months
- 9 months
- 12 months
- 15 months
- 18 months
- 24 months
- annually through age 20

**ACTION:** The Report and Claim for EPSDT/ HealthStart Screening and Related Procedures (MC-19) form is now being used as a common claim form for EPSDT and pediatric HealthStart programs. This form combines billing and reporting information. The "screening and related procedures" information will be captured by Unisys for follow-up on referrals, evaluation of the health status of the children enrolled in the program, as well as for the overall effectiveness of the program. The old forms MC-19 (6/85) and the FD-330 (2/88) are obsolete and are not to be submitted to Unisys.

Please refer to the Fiscal Agent Billing Supplement that was distributed. It includes item-by-item instructions to providers for completing the MC-19 claim form.

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For billing purposes the age specific procedure codes and reimbursements are as follows:

<u>FOR EPSDT ONLY</u>				<u>FOR HealthStart ONLY</u>		
	<u>S</u>	<u>NS</u>			<u>S</u>	<u>NS</u>
W9060 WT	\$23.	\$18.	under 6 weeks	W9060	\$31.	\$26.
W9061 WT	23.	18	6 weeks to 3 months	W9061	31.	26.
W9062 WT	23.	18.	3 months to 5 months	W9062	31.	26.
W9063 WT	23.	18.	5 months to 8 months	W9063	31.	26.
W9064 WT	23.	18.	8 months to 11 months	W9064	31.	26.
W9065 WT	23.	18.	11 months to 14 months	W9065	31.	26.
W9066 WT	23.	18.	14 months to 17 months	W9066	31.	26.
W9067 WT	23.	18.	17 months to 20 months	W9067	31.	26.
W9068 WT	23.	18.	20 months to 24 months	W9068	31.	26.
W9820	23.	18.	every 12 months thereafter			

PLEASE NOTE:

The "WT" modifier is to be used only by EPSDT providers who are not certified as HealthStart pediatric providers.

Code W9820 - This code currently used for EPSDT screening regardless of age, can no longer be utilized for screening examinations for children under 2 years; the above age specific EPSDT codes must be used instead for dates of service on or after January 6, 1992.

Code 90764 - The current use of this code to denote a preventive health care follow-up office visit subsequent to EPSDT screening is discontinued; however, this code may be used by non-EPSDT, non-HealthStart pediatric providers when billing for Preventive Care Visit, Established Patient under one year of age.

Code W9069 - This code, used by HealthStart pediatric providers, is deleted for dates of service on or after January 6, 1992.

Interperiodic visits, when medically necessary, can be provided and billed on claim form 1500 N.J.(Health Insurance Claim Form) using office visit procedure codes from the 90030 - 90080 range.

All claims for EPSDT and pediatric HealthStart examinations must be submitted to Unisys within 30 days of the date of service that is listed on the claim on the detail line: 14A.

If you need information or have any questions regarding this Newsletter, please contact Danuta Buzdygan, M.D., Pediatric Consultant, Division of Medical Assistance and Health Services, (609) 588-2718.