



HealthCheck Reimbursement

Wisconsin's HealthCheck Program

HealthCheck is Wisconsin's name for the federal Early and Periodic Screening Diagnosis and Treatment Program (EPSDT). It is comprehensive preventive health screening for Medicaid-eligible children through the age of 20. HealthCheck calls for early *and* periodic screenings. The recommended number of comprehensive screens, based on recommendations from the American Academy of Pediatrics is:

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| ▪ Birth to first birthday | 6 screenings |
| ▪ First birthday to second birthday | 3 screenings |
| ▪ Second birthday to third birthday | 2 screenings |
| ▪ Third birthday to sixth birthday | 1 screening per year |
| ▪ Sixth to twenty-first birthday | 1 screening every other year* |

*Wisconsin Medicaid will reimburse for one screening per year from the sixth to the twenty-first birthday.

Comprehensive Screening Examinations

A provider must assess and document all the following components for Wisconsin Medicaid to recognize it as a comprehensive HealthCheck screen:

- ✓ A comprehensive health and development history (including anticipatory guidance)
- ✓ A comprehensive unclothed physical exam
- ✓ An age-appropriate vision screen
- ✓ An age-appropriate hearing screen
- ✓ An oral assessment plus direct referral to a dentist beginning at age three
- ✓ Appropriate immunizations and
- ✓ Appropriate laboratory tests

Interperiodic Visits

Interperiodic visits are used to follow up on detected problems or conditions from the comprehensive screen. The most common reasons for interperiodic visits include:

- Immunizations
- Retesting for an elevated blood lead level
- Retesting for a low hematocrit
- Educational follow-up when lead poisoning has been identified and an environmental lead inspection has been done

HealthCheck "Other Services"

Federal law requires Wisconsin Medicaid to pay for medically necessary medical services to "correct or ameliorate a physical or mental condition," identified through a HealthCheck screen, even if that service is not normally covered. In Wisconsin, we call this HealthCheck "Other Services." Wisconsin Medicaid has anticipated several potential areas of service that may be needed to meet this requirement, including intensive in-home psychotherapy, adolescent day treatment, certain dental services and otherwise non-covered over-the-counter medications. *Prior authorization is necessary for most of these services. They must meet all the following criteria:*

- ✓ The child must have received a comprehensive HealthCheck Screening within one year prior to the request.
- ✓ The service must be allowed by the Social Security Act as a medical service.
- ✓ The service is medically necessary and reasonable.
- ✓ The service is not a covered service under the current Medicaid Program.
- ✓ The requested service may be approved only if no covered service is appropriate to treat the condition.

Verification of the comprehensive HealthCheck, screen, including the provider name and date of the screening, must be included with prior authorization requests.

HealthCheck Outreach and Case Management

HealthCheck Outreach and Case Management agencies are separately certified by Medicaid. Their purpose is to:

- Inform recipients about the benefits and availability of HealthCheck services, including HealthCheck providers in the area
- Assist recipients in obtaining HealthCheck services
- Refer recipients, when needed, to the appropriate agency for transportation assistance.
- Promote continuity of care by assisting recipients in getting HealthCheck screens from their primary care physician

Case Management is a tool for linking Medicaid children to HealthCheck screening services as well as to health care providers for follow-up and ongoing primary care services. Case management services include the following:

- ✓ Link non-users of health care with HealthCheck screening providers.
- ✓ Assess the child's health and social service needs.
- ✓ Assist with referrals to all appropriate resources after the HealthCheck screen.
- ✓ Educate about proper utilization of health and Medicaid services.
- ✓ Remove barriers to services and resources.

HealthCheck Reimbursement

Reimbursement is higher for comprehensive HealthCheck screens than for similar Medicaid services, such as well-baby or well-child examinations.

Medicaid HMOs also provide HealthCheck screens. Reimbursement for HealthCheck screens is included in the HMO capitation rate. Medicaid data shows that children in Medicaid HMOs are more likely to receive HealthCheck screens than children in Medicaid fee-for-service.

How to Become a HealthCheck Provider

Medicaid-certified primary care physicians are automatically certified for HealthCheck. Other physician specialties, physician assistants and nurse practitioners are encouraged to request certification as HealthCheck providers. Public health agencies and certain other providers, where physician supervision is available, may apply for certification as a HealthCheck nursing agency. Interested applicants should go to the Medicaid HealthCheck certification website at <http://dhfs.wisconsin.gov/medicaid3/provider/certificationpackets/healthcheck-screener.pdf> and complete the forms.