

EPSDT – New Mexico Medicaid for Children

New Mexico

What is EPSDT?

Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic and Treatment (EPSDT) services are those services available to children under the age of 21 who are covered by New Mexico's Medicaid plan known as Centennial Care or who have Direct Medicaid (fee for Service). EPSDT services include preventive check-ups, diagnostic tests, therapies, personal care services, and care coordination. EPSDT also includes a range of mental health services. Any child/youth receiving services through a waiver program will also receive EPSDT services.

Each Centennial Care MCO (Managed Care Organization) also offers certain Value Added Services, in addition to what they are required to provide by Medicaid. See *Index of MCO Value Added Services*, at hsd.state.nm.us/LookingForInformation/value-added-services.aspx

How does someone access EPSDT services?

- EPSDT services are provided through the person's Centennial Care MCO or Fee For Service (FFS). Most Medicaid recipients are required to select a Centennial Care Managed Care Organization (MCO). Centennial Care members receive an initial Health Risk Assessment (HRA) to determine the level of care coordination they may need. Members may need to request a Care Coordinator, or one may be assigned to them.
- A Care Coordinator is someone who looks at physical and/or behavioral health needs and works directly with the child and their family to get the services the child needs.
- EPSDT services must be ordered by a doctor or primary care provider (PCP) and be medically necessary. Often a prior authorization from the MCO or FFS is required before a service can be provided.

What about Respite Care and Personal Care Services?

Respite services are available through the waiver programs but **not** through EPSDT or the MCOs. Sometimes it is difficult to distinguish between Respite and Personal Care, which **is** covered by EPSDT/Medicaid. Respite is for the primary purpose of relieving the child's caregiver and is therefore not covered by EPSDT. Personal Care is covered because it is focused on the child's needs and is not intended to relieve the primary caregiver. Personal Care is provided for children through EPSDT, but must be prescribed as medically necessary by a doctor or PCP.

Remember:

- For children under age 21 who are on a waiver program, all home healthcare services (therapies, private duty nursing, personal care services and home health aides) are provided by EPSDT through the MCO's or FFS. These services are **not** paid through the waiver programs.
- MCO Care Coordination can be requested by the family or the child's doctor/ PCP. If a person is having problems navigating the health care system, they should contact their MCO.
- To apply for NM Medicaid, contact a local Income Support Division (ISD) office. To find a local ISD office, look in the phone book in the State Government listings or apply on-line at: <https://www.yes.state.nm.us/>
- Mental health services can be accessed through your MCO.



EPSDT Services:

- Physical, Speech and Occupational therapy
- Private Duty Nursing (RN,LPN)
- Home Health Aide
- Personal Care Services (PCS)
- Care Coordination
- Medical Visits
- Behavioral Health
- Dental
- Vision

Liaison for Native Americans

505-827-3122

MCOs:

Blue Cross Blue Shield of NM

1-866-689-1523

Presbyterian Health Plan, Inc.

1-888-977-2333

Western Sky

Community Care

1-844-543-8996

Questions?

Call the CDD Information Network

1-800-552-8195

or visit our website at <https://goto.unm.edu/x8gmt>

Informational Tip Sheets:

<https://goto.unm.edu/amx6v>