

## Reimbursement Policy

### Pediatric Preventive Screening

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#### I. Policy Description

Preventive screening is a healthcare service with the goal of illness prevention and health management. According to the American College of Preventive Medicine,<sup>1</sup> “preventive medicine focuses on the health of individuals, communities, and defined populations. Its goal is to protect, promote, and maintain health and well-being and to prevent disease, disability, and death.”

Pediatric preventive screening guidelines provide evidence-driven guidance for preventive care screenings and well-child visits. Bright Futures is a “national health promotion and prevention initiative, led by the American Academy of Pediatrics and supported, in part, by the US Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), Maternal and Child Health Bureau (MCHB).”<sup>2</sup>

This policy refers to laboratory-based preventive screening tests performed on individuals newborn through age 18 years, except for newborn screening for genetic disorders. The World Health Organization (WHO) defines an adolescent as any person between the age of 10 and 19.<sup>3</sup>

For guidance on screening for diabetes in the pediatric population, please refer to policy AHS-G2006-Diabetes Mellitus Testing. For guidance on testing for thyroid disease in the pediatric population, please refer to AHS-G2045-Thyroid Disease Testing. For guidance on screening for sexually transmitted infections in the pediatric population, please refer to AHS-G2157-Diagnostic Testing of Common Sexually Transmitted Infections. For guidance on screening for human immunodeficiency virus in the pediatric population, please refer to policy AHS-M2116-Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV).

Terms such as male and female are used when necessary to refer to sex assigned at birth.

#### II. Indications and/or Limitations of Coverage

Application of coverage criteria is dependent upon an individual’s benefit coverage at the time of the request. Specifications pertaining to Medicare and Medicaid can be found in the “Applicable State and Federal Regulations” section of this policy document.

- 1) When it follows all applicable federal and state law recommendations, a newborn screening panel **MEETS COVERAGE CRITERIA.**
- 2) For all newborns, screening for hyperbilirubinemia **MEETS COVERAGE CRITERIA.**
- 3) For all newborns, screening for congenital hypothyroidism utilizing serum thyroxine (T4) and/or thyroid-stimulating hormone (TSH) **MEETS COVERAGE CRITERIA.**
- 4) For all newborns, screening for sickle cell disease **MEETS COVERAGE CRITERIA.**

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- 5) For individuals who have an increased risk for lead exposure (see Note 1), blood lead screening **MEETS COVERAGE CRITERIA** at the following frequencies:
  - a) One test per month at six, nine, and twelve months.  
One test per year from two years of age to six years of age.
- 6) Screening for anemia with hemoglobin or hematocrit determination **MEETS COVERAGE CRITERIA** for any of the following situations:
  - a) For all individuals who are 12 months of age.
  - b) For individuals 4 months and older who are at risk for iron deficiency (see Note 2).
- 7) For individuals 1 month of age or older who are at increased risk of contracting tuberculosis (see Note 3), tuberculosis screening **MEETS COVERAGE CRITERIA**.
- 8) Screening for dyslipidemia using a fasting lipid profile or a non-fasting non-HDL-C **MEETS COVERAGE CRITERIA** in any of the following situations:
  - a) Annually for children and adolescents who are at increased risk due to personal history or family history (see Note 4).
  - b) Once for all children and adolescents during each of the following age periods:
    - i) For individuals 9 – 11 years of age.
    - ii) For individuals 17 years of age.

### NOTES:

**Note 1:** Lead exposure risk factors for children as defined by the CDC: living or spending time in a house or building built before 1978; growing up in a low-income household; being a recent immigrant, refugee or recently adopted from less developed countries; living or spending time with a person who works with lead or has hobbies that expose them to lead.<sup>4</sup>

**Note 2:** Iron deficiency risk factors for children as defined by the AAP: history of prematurity or low birth weight; exposure to lead; exclusive breastfeeding beyond 4 months of age without supplemental iron; weaning to whole milk or complementary foods that do not include iron-fortified cereals or foods naturally rich in iron, feeding problems, poor growth, and inadequate nutrition.<sup>5</sup>

**Note 3:** TB risk factors for children as defined by the AAP: close contact with a person with or suspected to have infectious tuberculosis; radiographic or clinical findings suggestive of TB; HIV infection or considered at risk for HIV infection; being of foreign birth (especially if born in Asia, Africa or Latin America, countries of the former Soviet Union) or is a refugee, or immigrant; contact with HIV infected, homeless, nursing home residents, institutionalized or incarcerated individuals, illicit drug users or migrant farm workers; having a depressed immune system; living or has lived in a “high risk for tuberculosis” area; participating in significant travel to countries with endemic infections.<sup>6,7</sup>

**Note 4:** Dyslipidemia risk factors for children as defined by the AAP: pediatric patient family history includes family members with CVD or dyslipidemia that are  $\leq 55$  years of age for men and  $\leq 65$  years of age for women; pediatric patients who have an unknown family history or other CVD risk factors such as being overweight (BMI  $\geq 85^{\text{th}}$  percentile,  $< 95^{\text{th}}$

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percentile), obesity (BMI  $\geq$  95<sup>th</sup> percentile), hypertension (blood pressure  $\geq$  95<sup>th</sup> percentile), cigarette smoking, or diabetes mellitus.<sup>8</sup>

### III. Applicable State and Federal Regulations

**DISCLAIMER:** If there is a conflict between this policy and any relevant, applicable government policy for a particular member [e.g., Local Coverage Determinations (LCDs) or National Coverage Determinations (NCDs) for Medicare and/or state coverage for Medicaid], then the government policy will be used to make the determination. For the most up-to-date Medicare policies and coverage, please visit the Medicare search website: <https://www.cms.gov/medicare-coverage-database/search.aspx>. For the most up-to-date Medicaid policies and coverage, visit the applicable state Medicaid website.

#### Food and Drug Administration (FDA)

The FDA has approved multiple tests for pediatric preventive screening.

Many labs have developed specific tests that they must validate and perform in house. These laboratory-developed tests (LDTs) are regulated by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid (CMS) as high-complexity tests under the Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments of 1988 (CLIA '88). LDTs are not approved or cleared by the U. S. Food and Drug Administration; however, FDA clearance or approval is not currently required for clinical use.

Although the HHS has created the RUSP to provide some standardization for each state's newborn screening programs, the HHS emphasizes that the conditions screened in each program are ultimately decided by the states.

#### Public Health Service Act (PHS Act)

As per the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Section 2713 of the PHS Act "generally requires group health plans and group and individual health insurance issuers that are not grandfathered health plans to provide coverage for recommended preventive services without cost sharing. A complete list of the current recommended preventive services is available at [www.healthcare.gov/center/regulations/prevention.html](http://www.healthcare.gov/center/regulations/prevention.html)."<sup>45</sup>

#### National Association of State Boards of Education (NASBE)

The NASBE provides information about state mandates for school health screening.<sup>46</sup>

Please note that individual states may provide specific guidelines and recommendations for pediatric preventive screening.

### IV. Applicable CPT/HCPCS Procedure Codes

CPT	Code Description
80061	Lipid panel This panel must include the following: Cholesterol, serum, total (82465) Lipoprotein, direct measurement, high density cholesterol (HDL cholesterol) (83718) Triglycerides (84478)

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82247	Bilirubin; total
82248	Bilirubin; direct
82465	Cholesterol, serum or whole blood, total
83020	Hemoglobin fractionation and quantitation; electrophoresis (eg, A2, S, C, and/or F)
83021	Hemoglobin fractionation and quantitation; chromatography (eg, A2, S, C, and/or F)
83655	Lead
83718	Lipoprotein, direct measurement; high density cholesterol (HDL cholesterol)
84439	Thyroxine; free
84443	Thyroid stimulating hormone (TSH)
84478	Triglycerides
85014	Blood count; hematocrit (Hct)
85018	Blood count; hemoglobin (Hgb)
86480	Tuberculosis test, cell mediated immunity antigen response measurement; gamma interferon
86481	Tuberculosis test, cell mediated immunity antigen response measurement; enumeration of gamma interferon-producing T-cells in cell suspension
86580	Skin test; tuberculosis, intradermal
88720	Bilirubin, total, transcutaneous
S3620	Newborn metabolic screening panel, includes test kit, postage and the laboratory tests specified by the state for inclusion in this panel (e.g., galactose; hemoglobin, electrophoresis; hydroxyprogesterone, 17-D; phenylalanine (PKU); and thyroxine, total)

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*Procedure codes appearing in Medical Policy documents are included only as a general reference tool for each policy. They may not be all-inclusive.*

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