

# **NOTICE:** EPSDT Developmental Screening – AHCCCS Update

February 2/22/2022

Dear Provider:

Early identification of developmental delays paired with early intervention services gives children the greatest opportunities for healthy development and success. Providers are required to use the AHCCCS approved developmental screening tools for EPSDT members from birth to 3 years of age. AHCCCS developmental screening tools include:

- **General developmental screening** should occur at the nine-month, 18 months, and 30 months EPSDT visit, and the accepted tools are:
  - Ages and Stages Questionnaire, Third Edition (ASQ-3)
  - Parent’s Evaluation of Developmental Status (PEDS)
- **Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) Specific Developmental Screening** to occur at the 18 months and 24 months EPSDT visits and the approved tool for use is:
  - Modified Checklist for Autism in Toddlers (M-CHAT-r).

Additional information can be found in the revised AHCCCS Medical Policy Manual located at: <https://www.azahcccs.gov/shared/MedicalPolicyManual/> (AMPM 430) and (AMPM 430-Attachment A)

When a developmental delay is suspected and identified using a screening tool, a referral for early developmental and intervention services must be initiated.

Developmental screening is a separately billable service by PCPs who care for EPSDT age members, and providers must bill for this service using the CDT code 96110 with the EP modifier.

Health Choice routinely monitors and reviews medical records and audits the use of validated screening tools to ensure compliance.

Thank you for your continued commitment to serving our members and providing quality care and services.

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