

interChange Provider Important Message

ATTENTION: Physicians, Physician Assistants, Advanced Practice Registered Nurses, Certified Nurse-Midwives, Medical Clinics and Federally Qualified Health Centers

REMINDER: Connecticut Medical Assistance Program (CMAP) Coverage of Behavioral Health Screenings in Primary Care

As a reminder, the Department of Social Services' (DSS) encourages providers to incorporate behavioral health screenings into the annual Early and Periodic, Screening, Diagnostic and Treatment (EPSDT) visit performed in the primary care settings for HUSKY Health members under the age of 18.

As previously communicated, behavioral health screenings, including suicide risk assessments and depression screenings, are reimbursable when billed with the appropriate procedure code and, when applicable, a modifier to identify when a screening scores positive or negative.

| Procedure Code | Description | Modifier designating positive vs. negation results |
|----------------|--|--|
| G8431 | Screening for depression is documented as positive, and a follow-up plan is documented | N/A |
| G8510 | Screening for depression is documented as negative, a follow-up plan is not required | N/A |
| 96127 | Brief emotional/behavioral assessment | U3 - Positive developmental / BH screen Or U4 - Negative developmental / BH screen |

In addition to the behavioral health screening as part of the annual EPSDT visit, medically necessary behavioral health screens that are performed at intervals outside of the annual EPSDT visit are also eligible for reimbursement.

Behavioral Health Screening and Assessment Tools for Primary Care can continue to be accessed from the home page of American Academy of Pediatrics Mental Health Initiatives at www.aap.org/mentalhealth. From there:



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- Select “Practice Tools and Resources”
- Scroll down to “Practice Workflow” and under “Mental Health Tools for Pediatrics” click “download.”

Providers should continue to refer to provider bulletin, [Provider Bulletin 2022-57](#) for full billing guidance and resources.