What is EPSDT?

The Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnosis, and Treatment mandate is a benefit that ensures comprehensive and preventive health care services for Medicaid beneficiaries under age 21. With EPSDT, children are entitled to receive appropriate health care services, including audiology and speech-language pathology.

**EARLY**
Every child has the right to access audiology and speech-language pathology services in a timely manner.

**PERIODIC**
Providers under EPSDT can provide services periodically throughout childhood.

**SCREENING**
Audiologists and SLPs can provide screenings to children to identify those at risk.

**DIAGNOSIS**
Audiologists and SLPs can provide assessments to children to identify disorders and needs for services.

**TREATMENT**
Audiologists and SLPs can provide treatment to address children’s needs.

Do you serve children who are Medicaid beneficiaries?

If you do, you are providing Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnosis, and Treatment (EPSDT) services. It is important to know about the EPSDT benefit.

Why should clinicians know about EPSDT?

According to an ASHA poll, members providing EPSDT services want resources and to learn more about the benefit.

**EPSDT covers A LOT of people.**

86,174,094 people were enrolled in Medicaid in February 2023

About 40% of those enrollees were children between the ages of 0–17 years.

10 states have over 1,000,000 children (0–17 years) enrolled in Medicaid and CHIP*


Because of the mandate for coverage, services for children under the EPSDT benefit have different coverage criteria than that which is applied to adults enrolled in the Medicaid program (e.g., no quantity or upper limit caps on services, no cost-based criteria for approval).

What can I do if I have questions about EPSDT or the way my state Medicaid program applies this benefit?

Find resources on ASHA.org or contact reimbursement@ASHA.org

*https://kff.org/medicaid/state-indicator/total-medicaid-and-chip-child-enrollment/