

HEALTHCHEK
OHIO'S MEDICAID
Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnosis, and Treatment Program

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

- The Ohio Department of Job and Family Services renamed the Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnosis, and Treatment (EPSDT) program as “HEALTHCHEK” for promotional purposes.
- The Healthchek program is a federally mandated comprehensive preventive health care program for Medicaid eligible individuals, including individuals enrolled in Managed Care Organizations from birth to 21 years of age.
- Federal regulations mandate that the HEALTHCHEK program be available throughout the state to all eligible individuals. However, participation in the program is voluntary.
- The program allows eligible individuals to receive comprehensive preventive health services at no cost.
- Infants may receive up to six (6) screening examinations in the first year of life. Children between the age of one year and two years may receive two (2) screening examinations. Starting at the age of two years, children may receive a Healthchek screening examination annually. Parents under the age of 21 years are also eligible for this program.
- The Healthchek program may cover requested “medically necessary” services not routinely covered by Medicaid. “Medically necessary” services are services which are necessary for the diagnosis and treatment of disease, illness, or injury and meet accepted standards of medical practice and are approved by the Department.

There are six separate Healthchek services which may be offered by different providers.

1. **Screening Services:** Includes a comprehensive health and developmental history that assesses both physical and mental health development, an unclothed physical examination, immunization assessment, developmental assessment, nutrition assessment, vision assessment, dental assessment, hearing assessment, laboratory tests, health education and anticipatory guidance.
2. **Vision Services:** Includes diagnosis and treatment for defects in vision, including eyeglasses, provided by Medicaid participating optometrists or ophthalmologists.
3. **Dental Services:** Includes diagnosis and treatment for the relief of pain and infections, restoration of teeth and maintenance of dental health. Dental services may not be limited to emergency services. All individuals three years of age or older who have not been seen by a dentist in the past six months will be referred by the examining physician for a dental check-up. Dental examinations for diagnostic and preventive services are not required, but are covered for children under the age of three years.

4. Hearing Services: Includes diagnosis and treatment for defects in hearing, including hearing aids, provided by Medicaid-participating audiologists.
 5. Behavioral health and other rehabilitative services
 6. Other services including further diagnosis and treatment
- Healthchek screening results may be used for day care, sports programs, Head Start, summer camp and school requirements. The screening physician may refer the child to a specialist for further diagnosis and/or treatment as needed.
 - There is a Healthchek Coordinator in each county Department of Job and Family Services who is responsible for assisting children to enable their participation in the program. Support services are offered at the time individuals are informed of the program and include:
 - 1) provision of names of doctors, dentists, and other providers who deliver Healthchek services;
 - 2) assistance with scheduling appointments; and
 - 3) assistance with transportation to the medical services.
 - There is an interagency agreement between the Ohio Department of Health and the Department of Job and Family Services to coordinate the delivery of services related to childhood lead poisoning prevention. By virtue of this agreement, the Healthchek Coordinator can share information about the children with state and local health department staff serving the children. Such information includes but is not limited to Medicaid eligibility dates, addresses, names of caretakers, lead testing results, and assistance given in relocating the family to lead-free housing.

For information about program participation or assistance with support services, contact the **County Department of Job and Family Services** in your area.