



MONTANA HEALTHCARE PROGRAMS NOTICE

July 25, 2017

EPSDT Providers, Physicians, Mid-Levels

Effective January 1, 2017

Caregiver Depression Screenings

Due to the dyadic relationship of a caregiver and child, caregiver depression screenings are recommended at pediatric well child visits during a child's first year of life. Caregiver depression can have a lasting impact on a child's health and well-being if left untreated. When parents are depressed it can negatively impact a child's development, impede their ability to learn, and have effects that can last into adulthood.

Effective January 1, 2017, Montana Medicaid covers caregiver depression screenings under the child's Medicaid benefit. Providers must use an evidence-based screening tool, and screenings can be performed during any pediatric visit during the child's first year of life. This screening can be provided to anyone who is considered a child's primary caregiver. Positive screenings must be appropriately referred.

CPT code 96161 is appropriate to use for these screenings, and should be billed on the claim for the child's visit.

Contact Information

If you have any questions, please contact:

EPSDT Nurse at (406) 444-0950

For additional information, contact Montana Provider Relations at (800) 624-3958 or (406) 442-1837 or [email MTPRHelpdesk@conduent.com](mailto:MTPRHelpdesk@conduent.com).

Visit the [Montana Healthcare Programs Provider Information website](http://www.montanahealthcareprograms.gov) at www.medicaprovider.mt.gov.