

Healthcare Reform Update & Alert



July 21, 2010

Preventive Services Covered Under the Affordable Care Act

The concluding decree for group health plans and health insurance issuers relating to coverage of preventive services under the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act was published on July 19th, 2010 in the Federal Register ([click here](#) for the document). The federal government supports the belief that over the long term, provisions of preventive care services will lessen the impact of long term health consequences that are caused by financial barriers to early receipt of care. In layman's language, the following outlines a list of services the government now deems as preventative and should be covered without copayment requirement:

As per the Affordable Care Act, if you have a new health insurance plan or insurance policy beginning on or after September 23, 2010, the following preventive services must be covered without your having to pay a copayment or coinsurance or meet your deductible, when these services are delivered by a network provider.

COVERED PREVENTIVE SERVICES FOR ADULTS

Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm one-time screening for men of specified ages who have ever smoked

Alcohol Misuse screening and counseling

Aspirin use for men and women of certain ages

Blood Pressure screening for all adults

Cholesterol screening for adults of certain ages or at higher risk

Colorectal Cancer screening for adults over 50

Depression screening for adults

Type 2 Diabetes screening for adults with high blood pressure

Diet counseling for adults at higher risk for chronic disease

HIV screening for all adults at higher risk

Immunization vaccines for adults--doses, recommended ages, and recommended populations vary:

- Hepatitis A
- Hepatitis B
- Herpes Zoster
- Human Papillomavirus
- Influenza
- Measles, Mumps, Rubella
- Meningococcal
- Pneumococcal
- Tetanus, Diphtheria, Pertussis
- Varicella

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- Obesity** screening and counseling for all adults
- Sexually Transmitted Infection (STI)** prevention counseling for adults at higher risk
- Tobacco Use** screening for all adults and cessation interventions for tobacco users
- Syphilis** screening for all adults at higher risk

COVERED PREVENTIVE SERVICES FOR WOMEN, INCLUDING PREGNANT WOMEN

- Anemia** screening on a routine basis for pregnant women
- Bacteriuria** urinary tract or other infection screening for pregnant women
- BRCA** counseling about genetic testing for women at higher risk
- Breast Cancer Mammography** screenings every 1 to 2 years for women over 40
- Breast Cancer Chemoprevention** counseling for women at higher risk
- Breast Feeding** interventions to support and promote breast feeding
- Cervical Cancer** screening for sexually active women
- Chlamydia Infection** screening for younger women and other women at higher risk
- Folic Acid** supplements for women who may become pregnant
- Gonorrhea** screening for all women at higher risk
- Hepatitis B** screening for pregnant women at their first prenatal visit
- Osteoporosis** screening for women over age 60 depending on risk factors
- Rh Incompatibility** screening for all pregnant women and follow-up testing for women at higher risk
- Tobacco Use** screening and interventions for all women, and expanded counseling for pregnant tobacco users
- Syphilis** screening for all pregnant women or other women at increased risk

COVERED PREVENTIVE SERVICES FOR CHILDREN

- Alcohol and Drug Use** assessments for adolescents
- Autism** screening for children at 18 and 24 months
- Behavioral** assessments for children of all ages
- Cervical Dysplasia** screening for sexually active females
- Congenital Hypothyroidism** screening for newborns
- Developmental** screening for children under age 3, and surveillance throughout childhood
- Dyslipidemia** screening for children at higher risk of lipid disorders
- Fluoride Chemoprevention** supplements for children without fluoride in their water source
- Gonorrhea** preventive medication for the eyes of all newborns
- Hearing** screening for all newborns
- Height, Weight and Body Mass Index** measurements for children
- Hematocrit or Hemoglobin** screening for children
- Hemoglobinopathies** or sickle cell screening for newborns
- HIV** screening for adolescents at higher risk

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Immunization vaccines for children from birth to age 18 —doses, recommended ages, and recommended populations vary:

- Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis
- Haemophilus influenzae type B
- Hepatitis A
- Hepatitis B
- Human Papillomavirus
- Inactivated Poliovirus
- Influenza
- Measles, Mumps, Rubella
- Meningococcal
- Pneumococcal
- Rotavirus
- Varicella

Iron supplements for children ages 6 to 12 months at risk for anemia

Lead screening for children at risk of exposure

Medical History for all children throughout development

Obesity screening and counseling

Oral Health risk assessment for young children

Phenylketonuria (PKU) screening for this genetic disorder in newborns

Sexually Transmitted Infection (STI) prevention counseling for adolescents at higher risk

Tuberculin testing for children at higher risk of tuberculosis

Vision screening for all children

If you have any questions please contact our Healthcare Reform Advisory Team at 732.842.3113 or email healthcare@withum.com

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