

**NEW MEXICO**  
**EPSDT AND WAIVER PROGRAMS FOR CHILDREN**  
**TIP SHEET**

**080307**

**What is EPSDT?**

Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic and Treatment (EPSDT) services are those services available to children under the age of 21 who are covered by the New Mexico Medicaid State Plan. EPSDT services include preventive check-ups, diagnostic tests and direct services, such as therapies and personal care services. They also include a range of mental health services. Any child/youth receiving services through a waiver program is also eligible to receive EPSDT services through the Medicaid state plan. For more information go to the website: [www.hsd.state.nm.us/mad/keepingkidshealthy.html](http://www.hsd.state.nm.us/mad/keepingkidshealthy.html)

**How does someone access EPSDT services?**

Most Medicaid recipients are required to select a Salud! Managed Care Organization (MCO). EPSDT services are provided through the person's Salud! MCO or FFS. Persons selecting an MCO may choose Presbyterian, Lovelace or Molina. Native American Medicaid recipients receive Medicaid coverage on a Fee For Service (FFS) basis, unless the recipient chooses to "opt-in" to Salud! Under opt-in, the Native American Medicaid recipient actively chooses to sign up with a Salud! MCO. If a child has special healthcare needs, it may be beneficial to select a Salud! MCO, as care coordination is only available through the MCOs and not through FFS. For details go to: [www.hsd.state.nm.us/mad/naoptin.html](http://www.hsd.state.nm.us/mad/naoptin.html)

EPSDT services must be ordered by a doctor or primary care provider (PCP) and be medically necessary. Often a prior authorization from the MCO or FFS is required before a service can be provided.

**What about Respite Care and Personal Care Services?**

Respite services are available through the waiver programs but not through EPSDT or the MCOs. Sometimes it is difficult to distinguish between Respite and Personal Care, which is covered by EPSDT/Medicaid. Respite is for the primary purpose of relieving the child's caregiver and is therefore not covered by EPSDT. Personal Care is covered because it is focused on the child's needs and is not intended to relieve the primary caregiver. Personal Care is provided for children through EPSDT, but must be prescribed as medically necessary by a doctor or PCP.

**Remember:**

- For children under age 21 who are on a waiver program, all home healthcare services (therapies, private duty nursing, personal care services and home health aides) are provided by EPSDT through the MCO's or FFS. These services are not paid through the waiver programs.
- MCO Care Coordination can be requested by the family or the child's doctor/PCP. If a person is having problems navigating the health care system, they should contact their MCO.
- To apply for NM Medicaid, contact a local Income Support Division (ISD) office. To find a local ISD office, look in the phone book in the blue State Government listings or go to the website: [www.hsd.state.nm.us/isd/fieldoffices.html](http://www.hsd.state.nm.us/isd/fieldoffices.html)

**For additional disability related information or resources contact:**



**The Information Center for New Mexicans with Disabilities and BabyNet**  
**1-800-552-8195**

<http://cdd.unm.edu/linc/babynet/index.htm>

**EPSDT Services:**

- Physical, Speech and Occupational therapy
- Private Duty Nursing (RN,LPN)
- Home Health Aide
- Personal Care Services (PCS)
- Care Coordination

**Fee for Service**  
(505) 827-3113

**MCO Organizations:**

**Presbyterian**  
Member Services  
1-888-977-2333  
Intake Coordinator  
1-866-672-1242  
Waiver Nurse  
Care Coordinator  
505-923-8931  
[www.phs.org/healthplan/hpsalud.shtm](http://www.phs.org/healthplan/hpsalud.shtm)

**Molina**  
Customer Service  
1-800-377-9594  
Intake Coordinator  
1-800-344-9594 xt.  
181120  
[www.molinahealthcare.com](http://www.molinahealthcare.com)

**Lovelace**  
Customer Care  
1-877-894-4783  
Salud!  
Case Management  
Intake Coordinator  
1-877-894-4783  
xt. 26660  
505-816-6660  
[www.lovelacehealthplan.com](http://www.lovelacehealthplan.com)

Contact **Parents Reaching Out (PRO)** to request the booklet *EPSDT: Supporting Children with Disabilities*  
1-800-524-5176  
505-247-0192