

To: AmeriHealth Caritas Louisiana Providers

Date: February 12, 2021

Subject: Louisiana Developmental Screening Guidelines

Summary: The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) recommends that children be screened for risk of developmental, behavioral, and social delays using standardized global developmental screening tools in the **12 months preceding their first, second or third birthday or on their first, second or third birthday.**

Effective **January 1, 2021** AmeriHealth Caritas Louisiana is working in collaboration with LDH to incentivize Healthy Louisiana providers who use **CPT Code 96110** for Global Developmental Screening using Standardized Tools.

What do you need to know?

LDH reimburses separately for developmental screening, autism screening, and perinatal depression screening when billed according to guidelines.

Developmental screening and autism screening currently are reimbursed using the same procedure code. Providers may receive reimbursement only for one developmental screen and one autism screen per day. To receive reimbursement for both services performed on the same day, providers may submit claims for two units of the procedure code.

When billing for perinatal depression screening on the same day as development screening, **providers must append modifier 59 to claims.** Please review full details on [Informational Bulletin 21-3](#).

ACLA will modify our claims system within 30 days from the LDH Fee Schedule update. Any claims that denied incorrectly since January 1, 2021 automatically will be reprocessed.

Louisiana developmental screening guidelines follow the AAP recommended [screening periodicity schedule](#). The following table lists some global developmental tools; however, any validated global developmental screening tool supported by AAP and Bright Futures is acceptable.

Standardized Global Developmental Tools	
<i>(cited by Bright Futures and the AAP on Developmental Screening)</i>	
Ages and Stages Questionnaire (ASQ) – 2 Months to Age 5	Child Development Inventory (CDI) – 18 Months to Age 6
Ages and Stages Questionnaire – 3 rd Edition (ASQ-3) <i>(Recommended by the Louisiana Bureau of Family Health)</i>	Infant Development Inventory – Birth to 18 Months
Battelle Developmental Inventory Screening Tool (BDI-ST) – Birth to 95 Months	Parents’ Evaluation of Developmental Status (PEDS) – Birth to Age 8
Brigance Screens-II – Birth to 90 Months	Parent’s Evaluation of Developmental Status – Developmental Milestones (PEDS-DM)

Communication and Symbolic Behavior Scales – Developmental Profile	Survey of Wellbeing of Young Children (SWYC)
Chart Documentation Requirements	
<i>A note indicating the date of which the test was performed, evidence of a screening result or screening score, and the standardized tool used</i>	
<i>Standardized tools used to screen for specific disorders (e.g. Modified Checklist for Autism in Toddlers M-CHAT) do not meet the numerator requirement for standardized global developmental screening</i>	

Please use AmeriHealth Caritas Louisiana’s [Provider Search](#) feature or the [2020 Provider Directory](#) to assist with the appropriate specialist referral based on the findings of your member’s developmental screening.

LDH’s Bureau of Family Health offers implementation training and support for providers who would like additional guidance or resources for implementing developmental screening into their clinic. Please use [this form](#) to view offerings and request further assistance.

Bureau of Family Health also offers a [webinar series](#) on how to use the recommended developmental screening tools.

For a more detailed breakdown of the Developmental Screening Resources and Tools available to Providers, please visit LDH’s [Bureau of Family Health](#) website.

For more information, please contact the Developmental Screening Coordinator at **(504)-568-3504** or at DevScreen@la.gov.

RESOURCE TABLE	
Bureau of Family Health – Developmental Screening Initiative	https://ldh.la.gov/index.cfm/page/3974
Developmental Screening Resources and Tools for Providers	https://ldh.la.gov/index.cfm/page/4067
Louisiana Developmental Screening Guidelines Fact Sheet	https://ldh.la.gov/assets/oph/Center-PHCH/Center-PH/cshs/Developmental_Screening/DS_Guidelines_FactSheet.pdf
Developmental Screening Tools Webinar Series	https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLNwJekJWLnWOx2200Or6lqJv-kO9mLYjH
Assistance Request Form	https://ldh.la.gov/assets/oph/Center-PHCH/Center-PH/cshs/Developmental_Screening/ITS_Form.pdf

Questions: Thank you for your continued support and commitment to the care of our members. If you have questions about this communication, please contact AmeriHealth Caritas Louisiana Provider Services at 1-888-922-0007 or your [Provider Network Management Account Executive](#).

You can find a complete listing of provider alerts on the [Providers Newsletters and Updates](#) page of our website.

Where can I find more information on COVID-19?

Please visit <http://amerihealthcaritasla.com/covid-19> for update-to-date information for both providers and members, including frequently asked questions, cancellations and postponements, and important provider alerts from AmeriHealth Caritas Louisiana and the Louisiana Department of Health.