

# Provider Post

*News and updates you need to know*

## Spring 2021

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## Louisiana Developmental Screening Guidelines

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 began working in collaboration with the Louisiana Department of Health (LDH) to incentivize Healthy Louisiana providers who use **CPT Code 96110** for Global Developmental Screening using Standardized Tools.

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](#).

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<br><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 <sup>rd</sup> Edition (ASQ-3)<br><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)                                     |
| <b>Chart Documentation Requirements</b>   |  |
| <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> |  |

## CPT Evaluation and Management Codes and Guideline Changes

Effective January 1, 2021 the American Medical Association (AMA) revised the guidelines for Evaluation and Management (E/M) codes. Below are important updates:

- CPT code 99201 has been eliminated.
- CPT codes 99202 - 99205 and 99212 - 99215 have been updated to reflect new time references associated with each code.

Details may be found using the following link:

<https://www.ama-assn.org/system/files/2019-06/cpt-office-prolonged-svs-code-changes.pdf> [ama-assn.org]

## Reminder: AmeriHealth Caritas Louisiana Offers No Cost Language Interpretation Services for Our Members

Members should be advised that interpretation services from AmeriHealth Caritas Louisiana are available at no cost. When a member uses AmeriHealth Caritas Louisiana interpretation services, the provider must sign, date and document the services provided in the medical record in a timely manner.

How to use our interpretation services:

- Inform the member of his or her right to no cost interpretation services.
- Make sure a phone is in the room or use a cell phone.
- Call Member Services at **1-888-756-0004**, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, with the Member ID number, and Member Services will connect you to the necessary interpreter.
- Conduct exam with interpreter over the phone.



Interpretation Tips:

- Speak directly to the patient, not the interpreter.
- Do not rush. Pause every sentence or two for interpretation.
- Use plain language. Avoid slang and sayings. Jokes do not always translate well.
- Check for understanding occasionally by asking the patient to repeat back what you said. This is better than asking, “Do you understand?”

In addition, translation services must be provided to assure adherence to providing services in a culturally competent manner.

## Access Standards for PCPs

AmeriHealth Caritas Louisiana has established standards for accessibility of medical care services. The standards apply to PCPs and are requirements of the PCP contract.



### Appointment Accessibility Standards

| Medical Care  | Access Standard  |
|---|--|
| Routine/Preventative (Care must be scheduled)<br>Non-Urgent Sick Visits | Within 6 weeks of the member's call<br>Within 72 hours or sooner if condition deteriorates |
| Urgent Medical Condition (Care must be scheduled)                       | Within 24 hours of the member's call   |
| Emergency Medical Condition (Care must be seen)                         | Immediately upon the member's call or referred to an emergency facility                    |
| Specialty Care Consultation   | Within one (1) month of referral or as clinically indicated                                |
| Family Planning Appointments  | Within one (1) week or as clinically indicated   |

## Let Us Know Program

AmeriHealth Caritas Louisiana is pleased to offer the [Let Us Know Program](#), a partnership between our Case Management team and the provider community in the engagement with and management of our chronically ill members.

Members who require additional support for either physical health services or behavioral health services may be referred to us via the [Let Us Know Program](#). Please review the [Let Us Know Program](#) request form online for more details.

## Online Resources

Here's a look at what's new or recently updated on our website at [www.amerihealthcaritasla.com](http://www.amerihealthcaritasla.com):

- [COVID-19 Updates](#)
- [Newsletters and Updates](#)
- [Provider Handbook](#)
- [Claims Filing Instructions](#)
- [Account Executive List](#)
- [Provider Trainings](#)
- [Register for Network News, our free email service](#)

## Questions

If you have questions about any of the content in this Provider Update, please contact your [Provider Account Executive](#) or call Provider Services at 1-888-922-0007.