

## Health Assessments

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This section describes the services provided by the Child Health and Disability Prevention (CHDP) program. Refer to the *Provider Responsibilities: Health Assessments* section in this manual for program requirements of CHDP providers.

### Components of Health Assessment

A complete health assessment includes all of the following, unless medically contraindicated, deemed inappropriate by the CHDP provider, or refused by the individual or the individual's parent or legal guardian. Additional information about each component is found in the *CHDP Health Assessment Guidelines*:

- Health history
- Unclothed physical examination
- Dental assessment
- Nutritional assessment
- Developmental assessment
- Vision and hearing testing
- Immunizations
- Tuberculin test
- Laboratory screening tests, including testing for blood lead
- Anticipatory guidance as delineated in the *CHDP Health Assessment Guidelines*
- Appropriate health education, including the harmful effects of using tobacco products and exposure to secondhand smoke

Vision and Hearing

Additional information about vision and hearing screenings are found in the *CHDP Health Assessment Guidelines*.

Immunizations

See the *Provider Responsibilities: Immunizations* section of this manual for information about administering vaccines. Refer to the current American Academy of Pediatrics, Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and the American Academy of Family Physicians *Recommended Childhood and Adolescent Immunizations Schedule*.

The immunization schedule is updated annually. The most current version may be obtained at the Immunization Action Coalition Web site, [www.immunize.org/cdc/child-schedule.pdf](http://www.immunize.org/cdc/child-schedule.pdf) or the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Web site, [www.cdc.gov/nip/recs/child-schedule.pdf](http://www.cdc.gov/nip/recs/child-schedule.pdf) (front) and [www.cdc.gov/nip/recs/child-catchup.pdf](http://www.cdc.gov/nip/recs/child-catchup.pdf) (back).

Laboratory

Refer to “Laboratory Codes and Rates” in the *Rates: Maximum Reimbursement for CHDP* section of this manual for information about laboratory screening tests reimbursed by the CHDP program.

**Periodicity Schedule**

The CHDP program periodicity schedules for health assessments and dental referrals standardize assessment intervals and promote continuity of care for eligible children and youth. The frequency of preventive health visits offered through the CHDP program differs from the frequency recommended by the American Academy of Pediatrics and that required by both the Medi-Cal Managed Care contractors and the Healthy Families plan contractors.

The periodicity schedule offers CHDP providers a tracking mechanism for the provision of pediatric preventive health care services and is a reminder for when to deliver recommended services.

Refer to the *Periodicity Schedule for Health Assessment Requirements by Age Groups* and the *Periodicity Schedule for Dental Referral by Age* in the Appendix of this manual.

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**Medically Necessary  
Interperiodic Health  
Assessments (MNIHA)**

Complete health assessments may be performed before the next regularly scheduled physical examination when the following situations exist:

- There is a need for a sports or camp physical examination
- The individual is in foster care or out-of-home placement
- There is a need for a school or preschool entrance examination
- There is a need for providing additional anticipatory guidance to the individual or the parent or legal guardian
- There is a history of perinatal problems
- There is evidence of significant developmental disability

**Frequency Limitations**

Health assessments for individuals who require more frequent visits because of an identified condition, such as anemia, otitis media or asthma, are not benefits of the CHDP program.

**Rechecks**

A provider may recheck a screening procedure when there is a question of the accuracy of a prior laboratory test result or when the individual has failed either the vision or hearing screening test.

A partial history and physical examination is not a “recheck” and should not be billed as such.

**Partial Screens**

A provider may perform a partial screen when any of the screening procedures or immunizations is given to complete a recent CHDP health assessment and to ensure that the individual receives all age-appropriate services. This includes:

- Screening procedure(s) that could not be completed during a previous CHDP health assessment
- Necessary immunizations to bring an individual up-to-date although the individual is not yet due for another complete health assessment
- Screening procedure(s), such as hemoglobin or hematocrit, that are performed to meet requirements of the Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) Supplemental Nutrition Program and Head Start/State Preschool programs for individuals who have had a complete CHDP health assessment but are not yet due for another one