

To: Keystone First Primary Care Practitioners (PCPs)

Date: September 3, 2026

Re: EPSDT Claim Reminders

Due to a recent increase in Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic, and Treatment (EPSDT) claims, we are providing guidance on the National Correct Coding Initiative (NCCI) billing requirements. Claims will be subject to these coding requirements beginning October 1, 2026. To allow providers time to implement the necessary coding updates, the related claims editing logic has been temporarily suppressed for **30 days**. We encourage providers to review their billing practices and make any necessary updates before the effective date.

Billing an EPSDT Preventive Visit and a Sick Visit on the Same Date of Service

When a preventive EPSDT visit and a medically necessary sick visit are provided to the same member on the same date of service, documentation must support that two distinct services were provided.

Coding Requirements:

- Report the appropriate preventive medicine service code:
 - **New patients:** CPT® 99381-99385
 - **Established patients:** CPT® 99391-99395
- Report the appropriate Evaluation and Management (E/M) code for the sick visit:
 - CPT® 99211-99215
- **Modifier 25 must be appended to the E/M (sick visit) code only.**
 - Do **not** append Modifier 25 to the preventive medicine (EPSDT) code.

NCCI Editing Requirements

Per Medicaid NCCI guidelines, procedure code **99173** has an NCCI edit relationship with procedure code **96160**.

- **96160** is the Column I code.
- **99173** is the Column II code.
- When appropriate and supported by documentation, the Column II code (**99173**) must be reported with a valid NCCI-associated modifier to indicate that the service is separately identifiable and eligible for reimbursement.

EPSDT Provider Guidance

Although the published EPSDT Periodicity Schedule does not specifically reference NCCI requirements, providers are required to follow applicable Medicaid NCCI coding guidelines in accordance with the Medicaid Technical Guidance Manual which can be found at www.cms.gov.

For additional information, please refer to the provider website: www.keystonefirstpa.com → **Providers** → **Resources** → **EPSDT** → **Periodicity Schedule**