

UPDATE ON CODING FOR DEVELOPMENTAL & BEHAVIORAL/MENTAL HEALTH SCREENING AND MATERNAL DEPRESSION SCREENING IN THE PEDIATRIC VISIT

NC DMA has been reviewing screening codes (in particular the relatively new CPT code for social-emotional screening – 96127), EPSDT, and payment for screening. As you may be aware, NC had been using 99420 for social-emotional screening since 2009. That has now changed in keeping with national CPT. Also, note that 96110 will be used for autism screening in keeping with AAP recommendations. ***GREAT NEWS – PCC’s will now receive payment for general developmental and behavioral screens for 0-5 year olds (previously bundled with the well-visit payment). In addition, PCC’s will be paid for postpartum depression screening done at infant well visits in keeping with AAP recommendations.*** The plan was final as of July 2016, but the 2016 Health Check Billing Guide itself has been released on September 16, 2016.

General Developmental & Behavioral Screens

Description	Code	Payment
0-5 Year Olds (ASQ-3, PEDS, PEDS DM) If at well-visit add EP modifier <i>Payment will now be made for screen done at well-visit</i>	96110	\$8.49

Maternal Depression Screening

Description	Code	Payment
1 - 6 month olds (Edinburgh or PHQ-2/PHQ-9) At well-visit use EP modifier	96161 <i>(was 99420 prior to Jan 2017)</i>	\$3.74

**Note that if the mother is the patient (i.e. in Family Medicine or OB practice), Bill CPT Code 96127*

Autism

Description	Code	Payment
18 and 24 months (MCHAT R/F) If at well-visit add EP modifier	96110	\$8.49

Social-emotional screens

Description	Code	Payment
0-5 Year Olds (ASQ-SE, ECSA, Baby PSC, Preschool PSC) 6-10 Year Olds (PSC) PSC-Y ADHD (Vanderbilt, Conners) Depression (PHQ-2/PHQ-9 Modified for Adolescents) Anxiety (SCARED) If at well-visit add EP modifier (TJ modifier if Health Choice)	96127	\$4.25

Adolescent Risk & Strength Screening

Description	Code	Payment
Bright Futures Supplemental Adolescent Questionnaires, GAPS, HEADSSS If at well-visit add EP modifier (TJ modifier if Health Choice)	96160 <i>(was 99420 prior to Jan 2017)</i>	\$3.74

**May code up to two units per visit for 96110 and 96127.*

***In January 2017, CPT opened the code 96161 for “health risk screen of a caregiver for the benefit of the patient” - which replaced 99420 for maternal depression screening. 96160 is now the code for patient-focused health risk screen. 99420 is discontinued in CPT.*