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Effective Date	09/01/2024
Reviewed/Revised Date	08/01/2024
Next Review Date	10/01/2026
Origination Date	08/01/2024
Originated Department	Medical Management

Developmental Screening and Testing Guidelines

Audience
Medical Management, Claims

Purpose
<p>Medical policies provide general support for applying Mountain Health Co-Op member policy document coverage decisions, and the member-specific benefit plan document must be referenced. The terms of the member-specific Policy document may differ from the standard benefit plan based on this medical policy. If there is a conflict between a member-specific policy document and the Mountain Health Co-Op medical policy, the document supersedes this policy. Any person(s) applying this medical policy must identify member eligibility, the member-specific policy document, and related policies or guidelines before applying this medical policy, including the existence of any state or federal guidance. Mountain Health Co-Op medical policies are designed for informational purposes only and are not an authorization, explanation of benefits, or contract. Receipt of benefits is subject to the satisfaction of all terms and conditions of the member-specific policy document coverage. Mountain Health Co-Op reserves the sole discretionary right to modify all policies and guidelines at any time.</p>

Definition
<p>Comprehensive preventive medicine services are intended to identify conditions before they become a significant concern. These evaluations in children up to age 5 include an age—and gender-appropriate history and examination, counseling, anticipatory guidance, risk factor reduction interventions, screenings for growth and development milestones, and developmental surveillance. These preventive services are billed using CPT® (Current Procedure Terminology) Evaluation/Management (E/M) codes 99381/99382 for new patients and 99391/99392 for established patients.</p> <p>As noted, developmental screening is an established part of these preventive evaluations. It determines whether a child requires additional workup for a developmental disorder and is</p>

used at periodic intervals from infancy to early childhood. Developmental screening can also be performed separately from an E/M visit but is typically included as part of the preventive evaluation/well-child check.

Policy/Procedure

Mountain Health Co-Op reimburses CPT code 96110 for developmental screening in the following circumstances:

- A. Child is under 5 years of age;
- B. Code has not been previously billed by this or any other provider within the previous 12 months;
- C. An evaluation and management visit is not billed on the same service date.

Clinical Rationale

When reporting the developmental screening CPT code 96110 with a preventive medicine service E/M code, the AMA-CPT book states, "it is expected that the administration of these tests will generate material that will be formulated into a report." Because a physician obtains developmental information as an intrinsic part of a preventive medicine service for an infant or child, and sometimes this information is received in the form of a questionnaire completed by the parents, it is expected that this code will be reported in addition to the preventive medicine visit, only if the screening meets the code description. Physicians should report the specific CPT code for developmental screening or similar screening or testing, separate and distinct from the preventive medicine service, only when the testing or screening results in an interpretation and report by the physician and is entered into the medical record.

Applicable Coding

CPT Codes

96110 Developmental screening (eg, developmental milestone survey, speech, and language delay screen), with scoring and documentation, per standardized instrument

HCPCS Codes

No applicable codes

References

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2. American Medical Association, Current Procedural Terminology (CPT®) and associated publications and services
3. Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Child Development/Developmental Monitoring and Screening. <http://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/childdevelopment/screening.html>

4. Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System, HCPCS Release and Code Sets
5. Johnson CP, Myers SM, et al. American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP). "Identification, Evaluation, and Management of Children with Autism Spectrum Disorders". Pediatrics. 2007;120(5):1183–1215. Available at: <https://publications.aap.org/pediatrics/article/120/5/1183/71081/Identification-and-Evaluation-of-Children-With>
6. Limbos, M. M. and D. P. Joyce (2011). "Comparison of the ASQ and PEDS in screening for developmental delay in children presenting for primary care." J Dev Behav Pediatr 32(7): 499-511.
7. Optum® (2023) "EndoderPro.com for Payers Professional".
8. Pelletier H, Abrams M. (2002) "The North Carolina ABCD Project: A New Approach for Providing Developmental Services in Primary Care Practice". July 2002. Available at: <https://www.commonwealthfund.org>
9. Rydz D, Srour M, Oskoui, M, et al. (2006) "Screening for Developmental Delay in the Setting of a Community Pediatric Clinic: A Prospective Assessment of Parent-Report Questionnaires". Pediatrics Vol. 118 No. 4 October 1, 2006.

Vendors

- Health Plan Services (HPS)

Review/Revision/Approval History

Date	Description
08/01/2024	New Policy

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