



March 13, 2020

Web Announcement 2133

Maternal Depression Screening Information

The Division of Health Care Financing and Policy (DHCFP) would like to provide the following clarification for providers regarding maternal depression screenings. Nevada Medicaid can reimburse providers who complete a maternal depression screen as recommended by the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP). Early screening of the mother occurs during an infant's well-child visit with a pediatrician. Additionally, depression screening may be completed for both pregnant and postpartum women as recommended by the United States Preventive Services Task Force (USPSTF). Postpartum depression screening encourages use of best practices and promotes access to care.

Background:

According to the AAP, an estimated 15 to 20 percent of new mothers are affected by perinatal depression, which is an umbrella term that includes forms of perinatal and postpartum depression. According to the AAP, mothers with lower incomes are more likely to experience depression compared to the general population of mothers.

"Bright Futures," the AAP-recommended guidelines for health supervision of infants, children and adolescents, advises postpartum checkups at well-child visits as a best practice for pediatricians. According to the recommendations, maternal depression screens should occur by one (1) month of age of the infant and then at two (2) months, four (4) months and/or six (6) months of age of the child.

Nevada Medicaid policy in the Nevada [Medicaid Services Manual \(MSM\) Chapter 1500, Healthy Kids Program](#), allows providers to bill for up to three maternal depression screens to occur from birth to age one (1) years old of the child, in addition to the well-child visit. [MSM Chapter 600, Physician Services](#), allows providers to include a depression screen for pregnant and postpartum women during a routine office exam.

Procedure Codes:

Current Procedural Terminology (CPT) code	Modifier	Description
96160	No Modifier	The postpartum screening is done on the same day as the well-baby visit and is billed under the newborn's Medicaid ID number. The screen can only be billed three times from birth to age one (1) years of age of the newborn.
99201-99215	No Modifier	The USPSTF recommends screening for depression in the general adult population, including pregnant and postpartum women. Screening should be implemented with adequate systems in place to ensure accurate diagnosis, effective treatment and appropriate follow-up.

Resources:

- [MSM Chapter 600, Physician Services](#)
- [MSM Chapter 1500, Healthy Kids Program](#)
- [United States Preventive Services Task Force](#)
- [American Academy of Pediatrics Perinatal Depression Brief](#)
- [Bright Futures Periodicity Schedule](#)
- [Provider Type \(PT\) 20, 24, and 77 Billing Guide \(Physician and Osteopath, Advance Practice Registered Nurses and Physician's Assistants\)](#)