

Section 1 Introduction - Maryland Healthy Kids/ Early Periodic Screening, Diagnosis and Treatment (EPSDT) Program

B. HEALTHY KIDS PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION

Medicaid's HealthChoice and Acute Care Administration (HCACA), administers the Healthy Kids/EPSDT Programs. The Healthy Kids Program has a team of nurses who serve as regional consultants to MCOs and providers certified in the Program. This team performs a vital role by conducting performance improvement activities to assure that services rendered to Medicaid children and adolescents are meeting the Program standards.

In addition, the following Medicaid Divisions provide complimentary functions that impact the Healthy Kids/EPSDT Program: HealthChoice Management and Quality Assurance, Customer Relations, Outreach and Care Coordination, and the Division of Children's Services. The Division of Children's Services is responsible for policies that relate to the treatment components of the EPSDT Program that include dental services, vision, audiology, therapies, and other services provided only for children and adolescents less than 21 years of age who are enrolled in Medicaid. The Healthy Kids Program is part of the Division of Children's Services.

The Healthy Kids/EPSDT Program responsibilities include:

- Informing eligible children under 21 years of age about the EPSDT/Healthy Kids Program;
- Assuring that EPSDT screening services are available from Program-certified primary care providers enrolled in Managed Care networks and the fee-for-service MA Program;
- Assuring that medically necessary treatment services are available;
- Coordinating with related agencies and programs such as local health departments (LHDs), WIC, Head Start and foster care;
- **Providing funds to LHDs to collaborate with the MCOs and provide support services such as outreach, appointment scheduling, transportation assistance, tracking, and case management services to assist with treatment for identified problems and assure continuity of care.**