

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

B. HEALTHY KIDS PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION

The Office of Medical Benefits Management (OMBM), administers the Maryland Healthy Kids Program. 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.

The Medicaid Divisions which support the Healthy Kids/EPSDT Program are the Acute Care Administration, Quality Assurance, Customer Relations, Outreach and Care Coordination, and the Division of Children's Services. The Healthy Kids Program which is part of the Division of Children's Services, is responsible for policies that relate to the treatment components of the EPSDT Program. These components include dental services, vision, audiology, therapies, and other services provided only for children and adolescents under 21 years of age who are enrolled in Medicaid.

The Healthy Kids/EPSDT Program responsibilities include:

- Informing parents of eligible children under 21 years of age about the EPSDT/ Healthy Kids Program
- Ensuring that EPSDT screening services are available from Program-certified primary care providers enrolled in the MCOs and the fee-for-service Medicaid Program
- Ensuring that medically necessary treatment services are available
- Communicating and coordinating with agencies and programs such as local health departments (LHDs), Women Infants & Children's Services (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