

CHAMPVA POLICY MANUAL

ADDENDUM 1

PREVENTIVE SERVICES

Covered Benefit	Policy Prior to October 6, 1997	Policy After October 6, 1997	Location of Policy Guidance
Body Measurements (Adult)	Not a previously covered service.	Periodic height and weight as a component of good clinical practice that is integrated into the office visit at no additional charge. (*)	Chapter 2, Section 23.1
Body Measurements (Well-Child)	Measurement of head circumference for children under 12 months of age	Height and weight should be measured regularly throughout infancy and childhood. Head circumference should be measured for children through 24 months. (A component of good clinical practice that is integrated into office visit at no additional charge.)	Chapter 2, Section 12.1
Blood Pressure (Adult)	Not a previously covered service.	A component of good clinical practice that is integrated into the office visit at no additional charge.	Chapter 2, Section 23.1
Blood Pressure (Well-Child)	Not a previously covered service.	Annual blood pressure screening for children between 3 and to 6 years of age.	Chapter 2, Section 12.1
Blood Lead Test (Well-Child)	Blood lead test. One test for lead in the blood of an infant up to the age of two years.	Blood lead test. Assessment of risk for lead exposure by structured questionnaire based on Center for Disease Control	Chapter 2, Section 12.1

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		(CDC) publication, <i>Preventing Lead Poisoning in Young</i> , during each well-child visit from age 6 months to under 6 years of age.	
Cancer Screening - Breast Cancer (Mammography)	Asymptomatic woman at risk age 35 and yearly thereafter. Asymptomatic woman age 40 for baseline and every 24 months to age 50. Annually thereafter.	Mammography is covered as a diagnostic or screening procedure when provided in accordance with referenced policy. See criteria for asymptomatic women and indicators for those women considered high risk.	Chapter 2, Section 2.1 and Section 23.1
Cancer Screening - Colorectal Cancer	Not a previously covered service.	Digital rectal examination, fecal occult blood testing, proctosigmoidoscopy or sigmoidoscopy and colonoscopy.	Chapter 2, Section 3.2 and Section 23.1
Cancer Screening – Oral Cavity and Pharyngeal Cancer	Not a previously covered service.	A complete oral cavity examination should be part of routine preventive care for adults at high risk due to exposure to tobacco or excessive amounts of alcohol and should be integrated into the office visit at no additional charge (*)	Chapter 2, Section 23.1

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Cancer Screening – Prostate Cancer	Not a previously covered service.	Digital rectal examinations should be performed annually for men age 40-49 who has a family history of prostate cancer, and for all men over 50. This is a component of good clinical practice and should be integrated into the appropriate office visit at no additional charge. Prostate-Specific Antigen - Annual testing for all men age 50 and older; men age 40 and over who have a family history of prostate cancer; men who have had a vasectomy at least 20 years previously or who had their vasectomy at age 40 or older. Discontinue screening at age 70.	Chapter 2, Section 3.5 and Section 23.1
Cancer Screening - Screening PAP Test	If the female beneficiary is at high risk of developing cervical cancer, more frequent screening PAP tests may be cost-shared when documented to be medically necessary and appropriate.	Women age 18 and over women who are at risk for sexually transmissible diseases; or women who have or have had multiple sexual partners; or if their partner has or has had multiple sexual partners; women who smoke. Frequency of PAP tests will be at the discretion of the clinician but should not be less frequent than every 3 years.	Chapter 2, Section 23.1 and Section 35.2
Cancer Screening – Skin	Not a previously covered service.	Physical skin examination is a covered	Chapter 2, Section

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Cancer		service if certain criteria are met however, reimbursement costs should be integrated into the office visit (*)	23.1
Cancer Screening – Testicular Cancer	Not a previously covered service.	Annual physical examination for males age 13-39 with history of cryptorchidism, orchipexy, or testicular atrophy. (*)	Chapter 2, Section 23.1
Cancer Screening – Thyroid Cancer	Not a previously covered service.	Palpation for thyroid nodules should be performed in adults with a history of upper body irradiation. (*)	Chapter 2, Section 23.1
Cholesterol Screening	Not a previously covered service.	Cholesterol. Non-fasting total blood cholesterol at least once every 5 years. (*)	Chapter 2, Section 23.1
Chromosome analysis	In cases of habitual abortion or infertility is considered a diagnostic service and is not subject to the genetic testing criteria.	No change in Policy.	Chapter 2, Section 23.1
Communicable diseases (Hepatitis b meningococcal, meningitis, etc.)	Covered if provided to individuals with verified exposure to a potentially life-threatening medical condition.	No change in Policy.	Chapter 2, Section 23.1 and Section 23.3

Covered Benefit	Policy Prior to October 6, 1997	Policy After October 6, 1997	Location of Policy Guidance
Counseling Services (i.e., patient and parent education counseling for dietary assessment and nutrition; physical activity and exercise; cancer surveillance; safe sexual practices; tobacco, alcohol and substance abuse; promoting dental health; accident and injury prevention; and stress, bereavement and suicide risk assessment.)	Not a previously covered service.	Expected components of good clinical practice that are integrated into the appropriate office visit at no additional charge.	Chapter 2, Section 23.1
Dental Screening (Adult)	Not a previously covered service.	CHAMPVA does not include a dental screening benefit. Under very limited circumstances, benefits are available when adjunctive to otherwise covered medical treatment. Fillings or extractions do not qualify as adjunctive dental care and therefore are not covered.	Chapter 2, Section 5.1
Dental Screening (Well-Child)	Not a previously covered service.	Dental screening by primary physician during routine exams at birth, approximately 6 months, 3 years, and 5 years of age. Adjunctive dental care requires preauthorization. Routine fillings and extractions do not qualify as adjunctive dental care and therefore are not covered.	Chapter 2, Section 5.1 and Section 12.1
Electrocardiograms	Covered when patient is being admitted	No change to Policy.	Chapter 2, Section

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	for a surgical procedure involving general anesthesia.		Section 4.4 and 23.1
Genetic testing and counseling	Are covered only for a pregnant beneficiary and under certain circumstances.	No change to Policy. (See Policy Guidance for exclusions for coverage.)	Chapter 2, Section 23.1
Genetic testing for Marfan Syndrome and chromosome analysis for children	Is considered a diagnostic service and is not subject to genetic testing criteria.	Testing and analysis (includes karyotyping and/or high-resolution chromosome analysis) of children are considered a diagnostic service and are not subject to the genetic testing criteria.	Chapter 2, Section 23.1
Health Counseling (Well-Child)	Not a previously covered service.	Health guidance and counseling, including breast-feeding and nutrition counseling are now covered.	Chapter 2, Section 12.1
Hearing Screening (Well-Child) (Audiology)	Not a previously covered service.	Evaluate hearing of all well-child participants as part of routine examinations and refer those with possible hearing impairments as appropriate.	Chapter 2, Section 12.1 and Section 23.1
Heredity and Metabolic Screening (Well-Child)	Includes the routine testing of newborns (hypothyroidism, phenylketonuria (PKU), hemoglobinopathies)	No change to Policy.	Chapter 2, Section 12.1
History and Physical (Well-Child)	History and physical examination and mental health assessment.	History and physical examination and mental health assessment are included in each office visit.	Chapter 2, Section 12.1

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HIV Testing	Routine screening is not covered, but can be cost-shared when determined to be medically necessary.	Service may be provided during acute and chronic care visits or during preventive care visits.	Chapter 2, Section 14.1, Section 16.3, and Section 23.1
Immunizations	Not a previously covered service for adults. Only children under age 2.	Covered when administered in accordance with current Center for Disease (CDC) Immunization guidelines.	Chapter 2, Section 12.1, Section 23.1, and Section 23.3
Infectious Diseases (Tuberculosis screening, Isoniazid therapy, Rubella)	Not a previously covered service.	TB Screening: Conducted annually, regardless of age, all individuals at high risk. Isoniazid Therapy: for high-risk individuals Rubella Antibodies: Females once during are 12-18	Chapter 2, Section 23.1 and Section 23.3
Rabies: Administration of Antirabies Serum/Rabies Vaccine; Laboratory examination of the brain of an animal suspected of having rabies.	Covered following an animal bite. Pre-exposure prophylaxis for persons with high risk of exposure to rabies is not covered. Lab exam of the animal's brain is covered. Charges for boarding, collection of brain specimen and animal destruction are not covered.	No change to Policy.	Chapter 2, Section 23.1
Tetanus immuno globulin and tetanus toxoid	Covered when administered following an injury.	Covered as medically determined.	Chapter 2, Section 23.1 and Section 23.3

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Vision Screening (Adult)	Eye examinations are excluded except when rendered in connection with medical or surgical treatment of a covered illness or injury. Purchase of eyeglasses, spectacles, contact lenses and prescriptions for or other optical devices are not covered unless the medical need meets the criteria of policy guidance.	No change to Policy	Chapter 2, Section 10.6 and Section 23.1
Vision Screening (Well-Child)	Not a previously covered service.	Eye and vision screening by primary provider during routine examinations at birth, approximately 6 months, 3 years, and 5 years of age and are referred if medically appropriate. Additionally, ages 3 to 6: comprehensive eye examinations for amblyopia and strabismus. Purchase of eyeglasses, spectacles, contact lenses and or other optical devices are not covered unless medically necessary.	Chapter 2, Section 12.1 and Section 23.1
Well-Child Care Policy	Well-baby care from birth to age 2 when services are provided by the primary physician or pediatric nurse practitioner.	Well-Child care from birth to age 6 when services are provided by the attending physician, certified nurse practitioner, or certified physician assistant. (In some cases, such services may be considered a component of good clinical practice and should be integrated into the appropriate office visit at no additional charge.)	

TRANSMITTAL #: 67
DATE: 01/29/2004
TRICARE CHANGE #: C17

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X-rays (Routine Chest)	Covered when patient is admitted for a surgical procedure that involves general anesthesia.	No change to Policy.	Chapter 2, Section 23.1 and Section 26.2

NOTE: (*) Denotes covered preventive services when provided in connection with immunizations, pap smears, mammograms, or colon and prostate examinations. Refer to CHAMPVA PM Chapter 2, Section 23.1, Exceptions B. for clarification. (Although a particular service may now be covered, in some cases, such services may be considered a component of good clinical practice and would therefore be integrated into the appropriate office visit at no additional charge.)