



Pediatric Medical Necessity: EPSDT, CHIP, and Children's Health Coverage in the Era of Health Care Reform

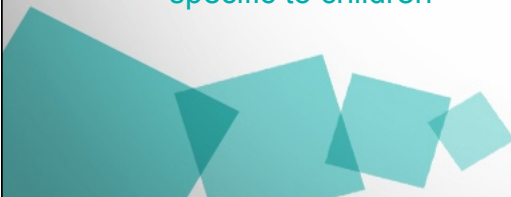
Presenter:

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Alabama's Approach

- Started with Benchmark Benefit Package
- Added Enhancements
 - Based on collaborative recommendations from variety of organizations such as dental representatives, physician groups and child advocates
 - Focusing on medical and behavioral health needs specific to children



Examples of Enhancements

- Annual well child visit for adolescents (every two years in benchmark)
- Coverage for ADD and ADHD office visit with primary care physician
- Coverage for space maintainers as dental benefit

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ALL Kids Plus

- Created in response to advocates of children with special health care needs - concerned over absence of EPSDT
- ALL Kids partnered with Children's Rehabilitation Services (Title V CSHCN Agency) and Alabama Department of Mental Health

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ALL Kids Plus (continued)

- Covers services outside of basic benefit package (including medical and behavioral health services)
- With Mental Health Parity all behavioral health benefits now covered under basic benefit package

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Dental Services

- CHIPRA mandated provision of dental services
- ALL Kids has always provided dental services
 - \$1500 maximum per calendar year
 - Diagnostic and preventive services are excluded from annual maximum
 - Dentists may provide medically necessary services over the annual maximum by submitting a request for needed services to BCBS for review and approval by ALL Kids

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Dental Services (continued)

- Medically Necessary Orthodontia Services
 - Cleft palate or cleft lip deformities
 - Trauma, diseases or dysplasias resulting in significant facial growth or jaw deformity
 - Craniofacial anomalies

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Other Medical Services

- Developmental Screening
 - ALL Kids added coverage for up to four (4) standardized developmental screenings (96110) in the first four years of life, in association with a well-child visit effective January 2008
 - Blue Cross Blue Shield added as benefit in July 2010

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Other Medical Services (continued)

- Obesity
 - Researching adding coverage for obesity diagnosis to include nutritionist visits & medical office visits

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