

Reminder: Grace Period to Expire; THSteps Preventive Care Medical Checkup Development and Autism Screening Tools Mandatory Effective September 1, 2011

Information posted July 22, 2011

Reminder: Effective August 31, 2011, the grace period will expire for the transition to the standardized and validated Texas Health Steps (THSteps) developmental screening tools and the autism screening tool. Effective September 1, 2011, providers must use the age-specific THSteps-approved tools for medical checkups or the checkup will not be considered complete.

The following information appeared in [“Reminder: Grace Period to Expire August 31, 2011 for THSteps Preventive Care Medical Checkup Development and Autism Screening Tools,”](#) which was published on this website on March 11, 2011.

New Development and Autism Screening Tools

Effective September 1, 2011, the THSteps medical checkup will be considered complete only if providers use the Modified Checklist for Autism for Toddlers (M-CHAT) tool for the autism screening and one of the following tools for the developmental screening:

- Ages and Stages Questionnaire (ASQ)
- Ages and Stages Questionnaire: Social-Emotional (ASQ:SE)
- Parents’ Evaluation of Developmental Status (PEDS)

The tools must be used at the ages indicated in the following table:

Ages	Developmental Screening Tools (Procedure code 96110)	Autism Screening Tool (Procedure code 96110 with modifier U6)
9 months	ASQ <i>or</i> PEDS	N/A
1 year	ASQ <i>or</i> PEDS (if not completed at 9 months or with provider/parental concern)	N/A
18 months	ASQ <i>or</i> PEDS	M-CHAT
24 months	ASQ <i>or</i> PEDS	M-CHAT (only if the screening is not completed at 18 months, or with provider/parental concerns)
30 months	ASQ <i>or</i> PEDS (if not completed at 24 months or with provider/parental concern)	N/A
3 years	ASQ, <i>or</i> ASQ:SE, <i>or</i> PEDS	N/A
4 years	ASQ, <i>or</i> ASQ:SE, <i>or</i> PEDS	N/A

For dates of service on or after September 1, 2009, procedure code 96110 for the development screening and procedure code 96110 with modifier U6 for the autism

screening may be reimbursed only if the ASQ, ASQ:SE, or PEDS tool is used for the development screening and the M-CHAT tool is used for the autism screening.

Claims will be subject to retrospective review.

Providers may refer to the original article titled "[THSteps Preventive Care Medical Checkups Benefit to Change](#)," which was published on July 24, 2009, on this website for more information about the screening tools.

For more information, call the TMHP Contact Center at 1-800-925-9126.