New Mental Health Screening Tool for the CSHCN Services Program

Information posted January 12, 2017

Effective for dates of service on or after February 1, 2017, the Pediatric Symptom Checklist-17 (PSC-17) may be used when performing the required mental health screening for clients who are 12 through 18 years of age.

Reminder: Mental health screening is a benefit at each preventive care medical checkup when it is provided in accordance with accepted guidelines or when a parent expresses concern about the client’s mental health. Mental health screening using one of the following validated, standardized mental health screening tools is required once per lifetime for all clients who are 12 through 18 years of age.

- Pediatric Symptom Checklist (PSC-35)
- Pediatric Symptom Checklist-17 (PSC-17)
- Pediatric Symptom Checklist for Youth (Y-PSC)
- Patient Health Questionnaire (PHQ-9)

Providers may be reimbursed separately when using one of the required screening tools during a preventive care medical checkup. Procedure code 96160 or 96161 must be submitted on the same date of service by the same provider as procedure code 99384, 99385, 99394, or 99395. Reimbursement is limited to once per lifetime per client. Procedure codes 96160 and 96161 will not be reimbursed for the same client for any date of service.

Providers may refer to the current CSHCN Services Program Provider Manual, section 31.2.18.10, “Preventive Care Medical Checkup Components,” for additional information about mental health screening requirements.

For more information, call the TMHP-CSHCN Services Program Contact Center at 1-800-568-2413.