



Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic and Treatment (EPSDT)

A strategy for lead poisoning screening for at-risk populations

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It's all about meeting needs



What is EPSDT?

	What does it mean?
<u>E</u> arly	Identifying problems early, starting at birth or at onset, to address long-term health concerns
<u>P</u> eriodic	Getting regular checkups to screen children's health and provide immunizations at certain ages
<u>S</u> creening	Getting physical, mental, developmental, dental, hearing, vision and other screenings to detect potential problems
<u>D</u> iagnostic	Performing tests to follow up when a risk is identified
<u>T</u> reatment	Treating the problems found

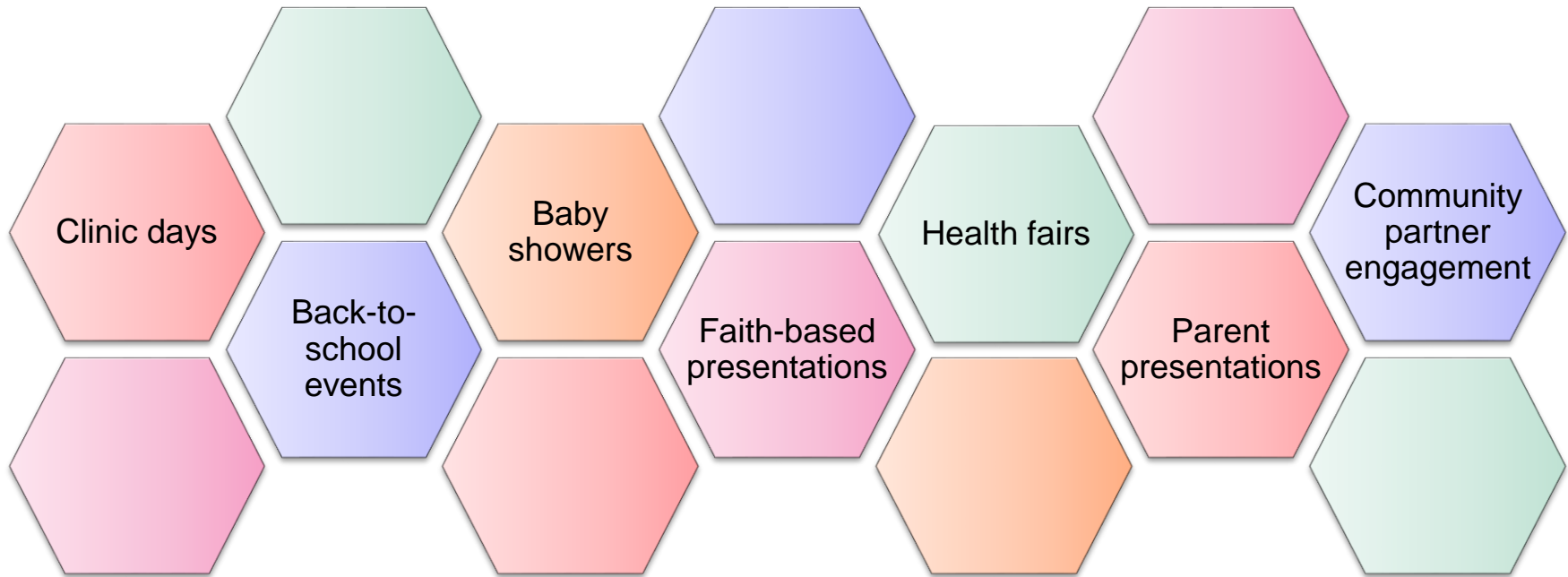
EPSDT: background

- Federal law requires state Medicaid plans ensure children receive health, mental health and developmental services.
- EPSDT is designed to address problems early, improve conditions and provide treatment.
- Children under the age of 21 who are enrolled in Medicaid are entitled to EPSDT benefits.

Blood lead screenings

- It starts with pricking the finger or taking blood from the child's vein.
- The doctor will perform lead-poisoning screening at every well-child visit.
- The child receives blood lead test at 12 and 24 months unless the PCP decides it should be done at other times.
- The child receives blood lead tests between 3 and 6 years of age if the child has not been tested before.
- The test will tell if the child has lead in his or her blood.

Collective strategies



EPSDT: barriers to success

Screening and participation:

- Screening and participation rates decrease as children get older.
- These rates typically begin to decline from 3 to 5 years of age.

Challenges to care include:

- Transportation.
- Child care.
- Sick model, instead of a preventive model.
- Lack of understanding regarding importance.
- Lack of understanding regarding follow-up importance.
- Noncompliance in following treatment plans.

Providers: making a difference

Be accountable

Identify barriers
for seeking care

Give value to the
visit's
importance

Follow up on
referrals made

Provide
treatment and
guidance as
needed

Don't give up!

Remember: It's all about the kids.

Thank you

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