

Child and Teen Checkups (C&TC) Provider Updates

FALL 2023

News from the Minnesota Department of Human Services (DHS)

Health Care Program Eligibility Renewals

The most important thing enrollees can do to maintain their coverage is to make sure they have updated their contact information. The Department of Human Services needs to be able to reach enrollees with important paperwork about how to keep their insurance when it's time for them to complete their renewal. Learn more at [Renew My Coverage \(mn.gov\)](https://mn.gov/renew-my-coverage).

Visits and Immunizations

On-time C&TC visits, according to the [C&TC Schedule of Age-Related Screening Standards \(edocs.dhs.state.mn.us\)](https://edocs.dhs.state.mn.us), is key to keeping kids healthy and ready to learn. Gaps in care and vaccinations may persist from the COVID pandemic. The [Keep Your Kids on Track \(health.state.mn.us\)](https://health.state.mn.us/keep-your-kids-on-track) resource can be used to guide conversations with families about the importance of regular preventive care, including vaccinations.

Silver Diamine Fluoride (SDF) Use in the Medical Setting

The American Medical Association recently approved a CPT code for SDF use in the medical setting to help combat oral health caries. Providers can now bill for this service

when provided during a C&TC visit. See the [Minnesota Health Care Programs \(MHCP\) Provider Manual C&TC Section \(dhs.state.mn.us\)](https://dhs.state.mn.us/mhcp/provider-manual/c&tc-section) for further billing instructions.

Early Childhood Screening

A new district early childhood health and developmental screening law ([Statutes 121A.17](https://statutes.mn.gov/statutes/0000121A.17) Subdivision 3, 2023) allows virtual screening for families with immunocompromised or other health concerns. Parents may also request a copy of a completed Child and Teen Checkup visit between ages 3-6 years which includes vision, hearing, immunizations, results of developmental and social emotional screening tools such as the Ages and Stages Questionnaire: 3 and Ages and Stages Questionnaire: SE-2 to submit to their district.

For all other families, *if your clinic completes*: Minneapolis Preschool Screening Instrument Revised, Developmental Indicators for the Assessment of Learning 4, Brigance III, or Battelle 3, a parent may request a copy (with vision, hearing, and immunizations) to submit to the district. If your clinic does not complete one of these observational tools, please refer parents of 3- to 6 year-olds to [HelpMeConnect \(helpmeconnect.web.health.state.mn.us\)](https://helpmeconnect.web.health.state.mn.us) to find their local district screening program.

[Minnesota Department of Education \(MDE\) Early Childhood Screening](#)

[\(education.mn.gov\)](#) has additional information about district screening programs including short videos, brochures, and frequently asked questions in several languages. [MDE Screening Administrative Forms \(education.mn.gov\)](#) has an optional screening summary form which may be used.

News from the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH)

Training 2-Question Survey from MDH

Help the MDH C&TC program determine where and when to host our upcoming Hearing and Vision trainings for screeners and nurses. With only two questions, this survey will take less than one minute to complete. Any feedback is appreciated! [Child and Teen Checkups \(C&TC\) Hearing and Vision Training Survey \(forms.office.com\)](#).

Help Me Grow

Help Me Grow is the portal by which families and caregivers connect to their local school district for screening, evaluation, and services.

Help Me Grow created a training video specifically for medical professionals and clinic staff who work with families of children aged birth through 5 years. [Help Me Grow MN Training for Medical Professionals and Clinic Staff \(youtube.com\)](#) provides an overview of the role and practices of the medical community in the referral process through Help Me Grow MN

for children, ages birth to 5, with a suspected or potential delay.

If you would like to schedule a presentation beyond this video from Help Me Grow MN staff, please contact Anna Paulson at anna.paulson@brightworksmn.org.

To refer a child through Help Me Grow, visit [HelpMeGrowMN.org](#) or call 1-866-693-GROW (4769).

Help Me Connect

Help Me Connect is excited to announce the launch of its new [Pregnant and Expectant Families](#) (helpmeconnect.web.health.state.mn.us) section! These resources were gathered to support connections to prenatal care, education, and basic needs that are available in local communities. Topics include breastfeeding and lactation support, birthing centers, diapers, car seats, pregnancy support organizations, mental health resources and much more. Help Me Connect promotional materials are available to download under the [About Help Me Connect](#) (helpmeconnect.web.health.state.mn.us) section. Professionals are now able to order a supply of rack cards to share with families by emailing helpmeconnect@state.mn.us.

SWYC

The Survey of Well-being of Young Children (SWYC) Baby Pediatric Symptom Checklist (BPSC) and Preschool Pediatric Symptom Checklist (PPSC) may be used for social-emotional screening for children under 5 years of age in the C&TC clinic setting. These parent report tools have acceptable psychometric properties according to the American Academy of Pediatrics. The [Minnesota Health Care Programs \(MHCP\) Provider Manual C&TC section \(dhs.state.mn.us\)](#), and the [C&TC Developmental and Social Emotional Screening in the Clinic Setting \(health.state.mn.us\)](#) webpages are being updated to reflect this change. More information about the SWYC is available at [The Survey of Well-being of Young Children \(pediatrics.tuftsmedicalcenter.org\)](#).

Anticipatory Guidance

The Anticipatory Guidance Fact Sheets [Birth to 10 \(health.state.mn.us\)](#) and [11-20 Years \(health.state.mn.us\)](#) are available on the C&TC website. Poison prevention and firearm injury prevention are highlighted below.

Review all of the [Child and Teen Checkups Fact Sheets \(health.state.mn.us\)](#) for comprehensive summaries and resources for every C&TC screening component.

Poison Prevention

Many THC edibles look like candy or other treats. There is a rise in emergency room visits for young children due to unintentional ingestion of edibles containing THC. Refer to the following resources for anticipatory guidance on preventing ingestion:

- [Preventing Unintentional Poisonings from Cannabis Products \(health.state.mn.us\)](#)
- [Edible Marijuana Dangers: How Parents Can Prevent THC Poisoning \(healthychildren.org\)](#)

Firearm Injury Prevention

Firearms are the leading cause of death for 0–24-year-olds in the United States; this is higher than deaths from motor vehicle crashes.

To help primary care providers become comfortable asking about guns in the home and at friends' homes, here are some resources for talking with parents:

- [Gun Safety and Injury Prevention \(aap.org\)](#)
- [Safe Storage of Firearms \(aap.org\)](#)

MN AAP resources:

- [Webinars & Videos \(mnaap.org\)](#):
Firearm Violence Prevention:
Counseling Parents about Safe Gun Storage Practices at the Practice Level (Part 1)

2023-2024 COVID-19 Vaccine Recommendations

On September 12, 2023, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommended a new 2023-2024 COVID-19 vaccine for everyone ages 6 months and older. This vaccine is expected to provide better protection against variants that are currently making people sick. There are three different vaccines available: Pfizer, Moderna, and Novavax (Note: Novavax is only authorized for people 12 years of age and older). The CDC does not recommend one of the vaccines over the other.

- **Children 6 months through 4 years of age** should complete a primary series including either 2 doses of Moderna or 3 doses of Pfizer vaccine, with at least one of the doses being the new 2023-2024 mRNA COVID-19 vaccine. If they had completed a primary series prior, one dose of the new 2023-2024 vaccine should be given at least 2 months after any previous dose.
- **People 5 years of age and older** should receive 1 dose of the new 2023-2024 COVID-19 vaccine. If they have received any previous COVID-19 vaccine, the new 2023-2024 vaccine should be given at least 2 months after any previous dose.
- **People who are immunocompromised** should have 3 doses with at least one of the doses being the new 2023-2024 COVID-19 vaccine. They may also receive additional 2023-2024 COVID-19 vaccine doses based on their clinical situation.

Refer to [CDC: Interim Clinical Considerations for Use of COVID-19 Vaccines \(cdc.gov\)](https://www.cdc.gov) and [Stay Up to Date with](#)

[COVID-19 Vaccines \(cdc.gov\)](https://www.cdc.gov) for more information.

Mental Health Support from NAMI

To help with the mental health crisis among teens and young adults, National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) has officially launched **the new NAMI Teen & Young Adult (T&YA) HelpLine**, a free, nationwide peer-support service providing information, resource referrals and support to teens and young adults. It provides a safe space for young people to connect with peers who understand their struggles and offers them resources and information that help.

The NAMI T&YA HelpLine Specialists are young adults with firsthand knowledge of mental health challenges who are experienced, well-trained and available **by phone, text or chat** to provide resources and guidance so no one needs to go through their mental health struggles alone.

Learn more about the NAMI T&YA HelpLine at [Teen and Young Adult HelpLine \(nami.org\)](https://www.nami.org). For ways to advertise the HelpLine, visit [Teen and Young Adult HelpLine Social Media Toolkit \(nami.org\)](https://www.nami.org).

Lead

Children's blood lead levels tend to increase from 6 to 12 months of age and peak between 18 and 24 months of age. Blood lead tests at ages 12 and 24 months of age are required for Child and Teen Checkups. Refer to [Blood Lead Level Guidelines \(health.state.mn.us\)](https://www.health.state.mn.us) and [Minnesota Childhood Blood Lead Screening Guidelines \(health.state.mn.us\)](https://www.health.state.mn.us).

In 2022, legislation was passed that lowered the definition of an elevated blood lead level (EBLL) from 5 to 3.5 mcg/dL. This changes the level at which education will need to be provided. Until new guidelines are released, health care providers are encouraged to follow the existing blood lead level guidelines linked above. Healthcare providers should use their clinical judgment on the frequency of follow-up testing for blood lead levels of 3.5-4.9 mcg/dL; as a benchmark, current guidelines recommend follow-up tests within 3 months of a venous result of 5-14.9 mcg/dL.

A new document [Elevated Blood Lead Level Change FAQ \(health.state.mn.us\)](#) answers to the frequently asked questions about how the new EBLL definition affects public health services, risk assessments, and clinical follow-up and treatment. You can find this document on the [MDH Lead \(health.state.mn.us\)](#) homepage under the “Spotlight” section.

The Center of Excellence for Newcomer health names lead toxicity as a health priority for newcomers from Afghanistan. See the [Lead Poisoning \(nrcrim.org\)](#) resource for ways to maintain Afghan cultural practices without lead exposure. [MDH Lead Fact Sheets and Brochures \(health.state.mn.us\)](#) also include resources about preventing lead exposure in 18 languages including Dari and Pashto.

Minnesota Department of Health
Child and Teen Checkups
PO Box 64882
St. Paul, MN 55164-0882
651-201-3650
health.childteencheckups@state.mn.us
www.health.state.mn.us

10/2023

*To obtain this information in a different format, call:
651-201-3650.*

Resources in Newsletter

News from DHS

- [Renew My Coverage \(mn.gov/dhs/renewmycoverage/\)](https://mn.gov/dhs/renewmycoverage/)
- [C&TC Schedule of Age-Related Screening Standards \(edocs.dhs.state.mn.us/lfserver/Public/DHS-3379-ENG\)](https://edocs.dhs.state.mn.us/lfserver/Public/DHS-3379-ENG)
- [Keep Your Kids on Track \(www.health.state.mn.us/people/immunize/hcp/kidsontrack.pdf\)](http://www.health.state.mn.us/people/immunize/hcp/kidsontrack.pdf)
- [Minnesota Health Care Programs \(MHCP\) Provider Manual C&TC Section \(www.dhs.state.mn.us/main/idcplg?IdcService=GET_DYNAMIC_CONVERSION&RevisionSelectionMethod=LatestReleased&dDocName=dhs16_150092\)](http://www.dhs.state.mn.us/main/idcplg?IdcService=GET_DYNAMIC_CONVERSION&RevisionSelectionMethod=LatestReleased&dDocName=dhs16_150092)
- [Statutes 121A.17 \(www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/cite/121A.17\)](http://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/cite/121A.17)
- [HelpMeConnect \(helpmeconnect.web.health.state.mn.us/HelpMeConnect/\)](http://helpmeconnect.web.health.state.mn.us/HelpMeConnect/)
- [Minnesota Department of Education \(MDE\) Early Childhood Screening \(education.mn.gov/MDE/fam/elsprog/screen/\)](http://education.mn.gov/MDE/fam/elsprog/screen/)
- [MDE Screening Administrative Forms \(education.mn.gov/MDE/dse/early/elprog/scr/AdminForms/\)](http://education.mn.gov/MDE/dse/early/elprog/scr/AdminForms/)

News from MDH

- [Child and Teen Checkups \(C&TC\) Hearing and Vision Training Survey \(forms.office.com/g/B2akznPYQg\)](https://forms.office.com/g/B2akznPYQg)
- [Help Me Grow MN Training for Medical Professionals and Clinic Staff \(youtube.com/watch?v=81Om0GwC5FY\)](https://youtube.com/watch?v=81Om0GwC5FY)
- [Pregnant and Expectant Families \(helpmeconnect.web.health.state.mn.us/HelpMeConnect/Topics/PregnantandExpectantFamilies\)](http://helpmeconnect.web.health.state.mn.us/HelpMeConnect/Topics/PregnantandExpectantFamilies)
- [About Help Me Connect \(helpmeconnect.web.health.state.mn.us/HelpMeConnect/Home/About\)](http://helpmeconnect.web.health.state.mn.us/HelpMeConnect/Home/About)
- [C&TC Developmental and Social Emotional Screening in the Clinic Setting \(www.health.state.mn.us/people/childreneyouth/ctc/devscreenctc.html\)](http://www.health.state.mn.us/people/childreneyouth/ctc/devscreenctc.html)
- [The Survey of Well-being of Young Children \(pediatrics.tuftsmedicalcenter.org/The-Survey-of-Wellbeing-of-Young-Children/Overview\)](http://pediatrics.tuftsmedicalcenter.org/The-Survey-of-Wellbeing-of-Young-Children/Overview)
- [Anticipatory Guidance Fact Sheet Birth to 10 \(www.health.state.mn.us/docs/people/childreneyouth/ctc/antguide0to10.pdf\)](http://www.health.state.mn.us/docs/people/childreneyouth/ctc/antguide0to10.pdf)
- [Anticipatory Guidance Fact Sheet 11-20 Years \(www.health.state.mn.us/docs/people/childreneyouth/ctc/antguide11to20.pdf\)](http://www.health.state.mn.us/docs/people/childreneyouth/ctc/antguide11to20.pdf)
- [Child and Teen Checkups Fact Sheets \(health.state.mn.us/people/childreneyouth/ctc/factsheets.html\)](http://health.state.mn.us/people/childreneyouth/ctc/factsheets.html)
- [Preventing Unintentional Poisonings from Cannabis Products \(www.health.state.mn.us/communities/injury/thcpoisonings.html\)](http://www.health.state.mn.us/communities/injury/thcpoisonings.html)

- [Edible Marijuana Dangers: How Parents Can Prevent THC Poisoning \(www.healthychildren.org/English/ages-stages/teen/substance-abuse/Pages/Edible-Marijuana-Dangers.aspx?\)](http://www.healthychildren.org/English/ages-stages/teen/substance-abuse/Pages/Edible-Marijuana-Dangers.aspx?)
- [Gun Safety and Injury Prevention \(www.aap.org/en/patient-care/gun-safety-and-injury-prevention/\)](http://www.aap.org/en/patient-care/gun-safety-and-injury-prevention/)
- [Safe Storage of Firearms \(www.aap.org/en/patient-care/gun-safety-and-injury-prevention/safe-storage-of-firearms/\)](http://www.aap.org/en/patient-care/gun-safety-and-injury-prevention/safe-storage-of-firearms/)
- [Webinars & Videos \(www.mnaap.org/webinars-videos/\)](http://www.mnaap.org/webinars-videos/)
- [CDC: Interim Clinical Considerations for Use of COVID-19 Vaccines \(www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/clinical-considerations/covid-19-vaccines-us.html\)](http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/clinical-considerations/covid-19-vaccines-us.html)
- [Stay Up to Date with COVID-19 Vaccines \(www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/stay-up-to-date.html\)](http://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/stay-up-to-date.html)
- [Teen and Young Adult HelpLine \(www.nami.org/Support-Education/NAMI-HelpLine/Teen-Young-and-Adult-HelpLine\)](http://www.nami.org/Support-Education/NAMI-HelpLine/Teen-Young-and-Adult-HelpLine)
- [Teen and Young Adult HelpLine Social Media Toolkit \(www.nami.org/Support-Education/NAMI-HelpLine/Teen-Young-Adult-HelpLine/Teen-Young-Adult-HelpLine-Social-Media-Toolkit\)](http://www.nami.org/Support-Education/NAMI-HelpLine/Teen-Young-Adult-HelpLine/Teen-Young-Adult-HelpLine-Social-Media-Toolkit)
- [Blood Lead Level Guidelines \(www.health.state.mn.us/communities/environment/lead/prof/guidelines.html#NaN\)](http://www.health.state.mn.us/communities/environment/lead/prof/guidelines.html#NaN)
- [Minnesota Childhood Blood Lead Screening Guidelines \(www.health.state.mn.us/communities/environment/lead/docs/reports/leadscreenguide.pdf\)](http://www.health.state.mn.us/communities/environment/lead/docs/reports/leadscreenguide.pdf)
- [Elevated Blood Lead Level Change FAQ \(www.health.state.mn.us/communities/environment/lead/docs/fs/ebllfaq.pdf\)](http://www.health.state.mn.us/communities/environment/lead/docs/fs/ebllfaq.pdf)
- [MDH Lead \(www.health.state.mn.us/communities/environment/lead\)](http://www.health.state.mn.us/communities/environment/lead)
- [Lead Poisoning \(nrcrim.org/afghans/health-education/lead-poisoning\)](http://nrcrim.org/afghans/health-education/lead-poisoning)
- [MDH Lead Fact Sheets and Brochures \(www.health.state.mn.us/communities/environment/lead/fs/index.html\)](http://www.health.state.mn.us/communities/environment/lead/fs/index.html)