



C.L. "BUTCH" OTTER – Governor
RICHARD M. ARMSTRONG – Director

IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & WELFARE

PAUL J. LEARY - Administrator
DIVISION OF MEDICAID
Post Office Box 83720
Boise, Idaho 83720-0009
PHONE: (208) 334-5747
FAX: (208) 364-1811

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Marilyn B. Sword, Executive Director
Idaho Council on Developmental Disabilities
Joe R. Williams Bldg., 1st Floor
700 W. State St.
Boise, ID 83702-5868

Dear Ms. Sword:

On behalf of the Division of Medicaid, I would like to respond to your question about the Early Periodic Screening, Diagnosis and Treatment (EPSDT) process. The purpose of EPSDT is to ensure individuals under the age of 21 have access to all medically necessary 1905(a) Medicaid services regardless of whether they are covered in the Medicaid State Plan. It also allows children to gain access to additional services beyond limitations, if those services are found to be medically necessary.

In addition to the State plan, states may use Medicaid Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) waivers under section 1915(c) of the Social Security Act to supplement the services otherwise available to children under Medicaid or to provide services to children who otherwise would not be eligible for Medicaid. In both cases, States must ensure children receive all medically necessary, Medicaid-coverable services available under EPSDT.

The implementation of waiver services under the Children's Redesign does not impact a child's right to EPSDT. Families continue to have the opportunity to submit an EPSDT request if they feel their child's medical needs are not being met by the services offered.

Thank you for bringing to our attention the need for revision of the EPSDT request form. We will be sure to make these updates in the near future. If you have additional questions about the Children's Redesign, please contact Lauren Ertz, Alternative Care Coordinator, Division of Medicaid at (208) 287-1169.

Sincerely,

DAVID SIMNITT
Deputy Administrator

DS/rs

C: Chad Cardwell, Family and Community Services, Department of Health and Welfare