

## **411 - WOMEN'S PREVENTIVE CARE SERVICES**

EFFECTIVE DATES: 10/01/15, 10/01/18, 02/01/21, 10/01/24

APPROVAL DATES: 09/06/18, 11/19/20, 08/26/24

### **I. PURPOSE**

This Policy applies to ACC, ACC-RBHA, ALTCS E/PD, DCS CHP (CHP), and DES DDD (DDD) Contractors; Fee-For-Service (FFS) Programs including: the American Indian Health Program (AIHP), Tribal ALTCS, and all FFS populations, excluding Federal Emergency Services Program (FESP). (For FESP, refer to AMPM Chapter 1100.) This Policy establishes requirements for well-woman preventive care visits as a covered benefit for women to obtain the recommended preventive services, including Preconception Counseling.

For the purposes of this policy, the terms “women” and “woman” refer to individuals who were assigned female at birth.

### **II. DEFINITIONS**

Refer to the [AHCCCS Contract and Policy Dictionary](#) for common terms found in this Policy.

### **III. POLICY**

A well-woman preventive care visit is covered on an annual basis.

#### **A. CONTRACTOR REQUIREMENTS FOR WELL-WOMAN PREVENTIVE CARE SERVICES**

The Contractor shall develop policies and procedures to monitor, evaluate, and improve women's participation in preventive care services.

The Contractor shall:

1. Inform all participating Primary Care Providers (PCPs), including Obstetrician/Gynecologist (OB/GYN) providers of the availability of women's preventive care services, detailing the covered services included as part of the well-woman preventive care visit, as outlined in this Policy.
2. Develop and implement a process for monitoring compliance with well-woman preventive care services provider requirements.

3. Develop, implement, and maintain a process to inform members about women's preventive health services as specified in this Policy, in AMPM Exhibit 400-3, and that aligns with the requirements in ACOM Policy 406. This information shall be provided as specified in ACOM Policy 405.
  - a. This information should include:
    - i. The benefits of preventive health care,
    - ii. A complete description of the services available as described in the provider's requirements,
    - iii. A statement that provides information on how to obtain medically necessary transportation as specified in AMPM Policy 310-BB including scheduling appointments to obtain well-woman preventive care services, and
    - iv. A statement that there is no copayment or other charge for women's preventive care visit as specified in ACOM Policy 431.
4. Develop and implement a process for monitoring, evaluating, and improving provider compliance to ensure that members are tested for syphilis at least annually, beginning at age 15 years.

**B. WELL-WOMAN PREVENTIVE CARE SERVICES PROVIDER REQUIREMENTS**

The Provider requirements for well-woman preventive care services include the following:

1. Covered services included as part of a well-woman preventive care visit:

An annual well-woman preventive care visit is intended for the identification of risk factors for disease, identification of existing physical/behavioral health problems, and promotion of healthy lifestyle habits essential to reducing or preventing risk factors for various disease processes. As such, the Well-Woman Preventive Care visit is inclusive of a minimum of the following:

  - a. A physical exam (well exam) that assesses overall health,
  - b. A Clinical breast exam,
  - c. A Pelvic exam (as necessary, according to current recommendations and best standards of practice),
  - d. Review and administration of immunizations, screenings, and testing as appropriate for age and risk factors, as specified in AMPM Chapter 300,
  - e. Screening and counseling focused on maintaining a healthy lifestyle and minimizing health risks and addresses at a minimum the following:
    - i. Proper nutrition,
    - ii. Physical activity,
    - iii. Elevated BMI indicative of obesity,
    - iv. Tobacco/substance use, abuse, and/or dependency,
    - v. Depression screening,
    - vi. Interpersonal and domestic violence screening, that includes counseling involving elicitation of information from women and adolescents about current/past violence and abuse, in a culturally sensitive and supportive manner to address current health concerns about safety and other current or future health problems,
    - vii. Sexually Transmitted Infections (STI),
    - viii. Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV),

- ix. Family planning services and supplies, (refer to AMPM Policy 420),
- x. Preconception counseling that includes discussion regarding a healthy lifestyle before and between pregnancies that includes:
  - 1) Reproductive history and sexual practices,
  - 2) Healthy weight, including diet and nutrition, as well as the use of nutritional supplements and folic acid intake,
  - 3) Physical activity or exercise,
  - 4) Oral health care,
  - 5) Chronic disease management,
  - 6) Emotional wellness,
  - 7) Tobacco and substance use (caffeine, alcohol, marijuana, and other drugs), including prescription drug use, and
  - 8) Recommended intervals between pregnancies.
- f. Initiation of necessary referrals when the need for further evaluation, diagnosis, and/or treatment is identified.

Genetic screening and testing are not covered, except as specified in AMPM Policy 310-II.

2. Well-Woman Preventive Care service standards

- a. Immunizations:
  - i. AHCCCS covers the HPV vaccine for members, as specified in AMPM Policy 310-M,
  - ii. The Providers shall coordinate with the Arizona Department of Health Services (ADHS) Vaccines for Children (VFC) Program in the delivery of immunization services if providing vaccinations to Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic and Treatment (EPSDT) aged members less than 19 years of age, providers shall enroll and re-enroll annually with the VFC program,
  - iii. Immunizations shall be provided according to the advisory committee on immunization practices recommended schedule as specified on the CDC website <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/schedules/index.html>, and
  - iv. AHCCCS funding shall not be used to purchase vaccines covered through the VFC Program for members younger than 19 years of age.
- b. Screenings:
  - i. The Healthcare Providers shall ensure that members are tested for syphilis at least annually, beginning at age 15 years.

Refer to AMPM Chapter 300 and AMPM Policy 430 for additional information regarding immunizations and screenings.