

This notice is for children & young adults (under 21) who qualify for Medi-Cal EPSDT services & their caregivers or guardians.

What are EPSDT Services?

- EPSDT mental health services are Medi-Cal services that correct or improve medical problems that your doctor or other health care provider finds, even if the health problem will not go away entirely.
- These problems may include sadness, nervousness, or anger that makes your life difficult.
- **You must be under age 21 and have full scope Medi-Cal to get these services.**

How to get EPSDT Services for yourself (under age 21) or your child

Ask your doctor or clinic about EPSDT services. You or your child may receive these services if you and your doctor, or other health care provider, clinic (such as the Child Health and Disability Prevention Program), or county mental health department agree that you or your child need them.

Types of EPSDT Services

Some of the services you can get from your county mental health department are:

- Individual therapy
- Group therapy
- Family therapy
- Crisis counseling
- Case management
- Special day programs
- Medication for your mental health
- Mental health services to treat alcohol and drug problems

Counseling and therapy services may be provided in your home or the community.

In most cases, your county mental health department, and your doctor or provider will decide if the services you ask for are medically necessary.



County mental health departments must approve your EPSDT services.

Every county mental health department has a toll-free phone number that you can call for more information and to ask for EPSDT mental health services.

What are EPSDT Therapeutic Behavioral Services?

Therapeutic Behavioral Services (TBS) are an EPSDT specialty mental health service. TBS helps children and young adults who:

- Have severe emotional problems;
- Live in a mental health placement or are at risk of placement; or
- Have been hospitalized recently for mental health problems or are at risk for psychiatric hospitalization.

If you get other mental health services and still feel very sad, nervous, or angry, you may be able to have a trained mental health coach help you. This person could help you when you have problems that might cause you to get mad, upset, or sad. This person would come to your home, group home or go with you on trips and activities in the community.

Your county mental health department can tell you how to ask for an assessment to see if you need mental health services including TBS.

Who can I talk to about EPSDT mental health services?

Your doctor, psychologist, counselor, or social worker can assist you with finding EPSDT mental health services. For children and young adults in a group home or residential facility, talk to the staff about getting additional EPSDT services.

For children in foster care, consult the child's court-appointed attorney. You can also call your county mental health department directly. (Look in your phone book for the toll-free telephone number, or call the State Mental Health Ombudsman's Office.)

What if I don't get the services I want from my county mental health department?

You can file an appeal with your county mental health department if they deny the EPSDT services requested by your doctor or provider. You may also file an appeal if you think you need mental health services and your provider or county mental health department does not agree.

Call the county mental health department's toll-free number to talk to a Problem Resolution (grievance/appeal) coordinator for information and help. You may also call the county patients' rights advocate, or the State Mental Health Ombudsman Office.

You can ask for a state hearing within 90 days after exhausting the county mental health department's appeal process by doing one of the following:

- **Call** 1-800-952-5252, or for TTY 1-800-952-8349;
- **Fax** to 916-229-4110; or
- **Write** to the California Department of Social Services, State Hearings Division, P.O. Box 944243, Mail Station 19-37, Sacramento, CA 94244-2430.

Who can I call for more information?

For more information please contact the following offices at the telephone numbers below.

County Mental Health Department toll-free access number	Look in your local phone book --or-- visit www.dmh.ca.gov
Department of Mental Health Medi-Cal Ombudsman's Office	1-800-896-4042
State Department of Mental Health EPSDT/TBS website	www.dmh.ca.gov

Medi-Cal Services for Children and Young Adults:

Early & Periodic Screening, Diagnosis & Treatment

Mental Health Services

