

A L E R T

June 27, 2023

TO: All Providers

RE: Specialist Referrals Not Required by Alabama Medicaid

On June 1, 2023, Alabama Medicaid resumed the EPSDT referral requirement for EPSDT visits. Once a child has an EPSDT screening, all subsequent visits to other providers for further diagnosis or treatment must have a written referral (Form 362) from the EPSDT screening provider. Please refer to Appendix A- Well-Child Checkup (EPSDT) of the Provider Billing Manual for additional information related to EPSDT services and referrals.

The resumption of the **EPSDT referral** should not be confused with the removal of the **PCP referral** requirement. As of August 1, 2021, Alabama Medicaid no longer require PCP referrals to specialists. However, some provider offices may require a referral prior to rendering services to Alabama Medicaid recipients. In this case, the referring provider would need to comply with the rendering provider's request.

Medicaid recipients that are in a lock-in status will need a referral from their lock-in provider. If a Medicaid recipient is in a lock-in status, the lock-in provider will be indicated on the Medicaid recipient's eligibility verification from the secure web portal.

For questions regarding referrals, you may contact the Gainwell Provider Assistance Center at 1-800-688-7989.