



Medi-Cal Dyadic Services

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What are Dyadic Services?

Dyadic services are integrated [family and caregiver focused](#) physical and behavioral health screenings and services that are designed to address children's developmental and behavioral health conditions as soon as they are identified. They are called "dyadic" because the parent or caregiver and the child are served together as a pair or "dyad." The goals of dyadic services are to foster access to preventive care for children, improve rates of child immunization completion, increase coordination of care, and promote child social-emotional health and safety, developmentally appropriate parenting, and maternal mental health.

Who may receive Dyadic Services under the Medi-Cal program?

Effective January 1, 2023, [Medi-Cal covers dyadic services](#) for the entire family based on the Medicaid eligibility of a child aged 0 to 20. A parent or caregiver does not have to be enrolled or eligible for Medi-Cal to receive dyadic services, so long as the child is enrolled in Medi-Cal. A mental health diagnosis is not required for the child, parent, or caregiver to qualify for services, and some dyadic services may be provided to the parent or caregiver without the child's presence.

What is covered under Medi-Cal Dyadic Services?

Services offered through the Medi-Cal dyadic services benefit may include various screening, assessment, evaluation, and case management services for physical and behavioral health or interpersonal needs. Dyadic services may be conducted in-person or through telehealth in different locations, including outpatient clinics, hospitals, homes, schools, or other community settings.

Categories of Medi-Cal covered Dyadic Services include:

- Behavioral Health Well-Child Visits,
- Comprehensive Community Support Services,
- Psychoeducational Services,
- Family Training and Counseling for Child Development, and
- Parent or Caregiver Services (i.e. depression screening, Adverse Childhood Experience Screening, Alcohol and Drug Screening, Assessment, Brief Interventions, and referral to Treatment, etc.)

For further details:

- [Medi-Cal Services Manual: Non-Specialty Mental Health Services Psychiatric and Psychological Services](#) (Nov. 2022)
- [All Plan Letter 22-29: Dyadic Care Services and Family Therapy Benefit](#) (Dec. 2022)