POLICY STATEMENT Organizational Principles to Guide and Define the Child Health Care System and/or Improve the Health of all Children

American Academy of Pediatrics
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2016 Recommendations for Preventive Pediatric Health Care

COMMITTEE ON PRACTICE AND AMBULATORY MEDICINE and BRIGHT FUTURES PERIODICITY SCHEDULE WORKGROUP

COMMITTEE ON PRACTICE AND AMBULATORY MEDICINE, 2014–2015
Geoffrey R. Simon, MD, FAAP, Chairperson
Cynthia N. Baker, MD, FAAP
Graham A. Barden, III MD, FAAP
Oscar “Skip” W. Brown, III, MD, FAAP
Jesse M. Hackell, MD, FAAP
Amy P. Hardin, MD, FAAP
Kelley E. Meade, MD, FAAP
Scott B. Moore, MD, FAAP
Julia E. Richerson, MD, FAAP

STAFF
Elizabeth Sobczyk, MPH, MSW

BRIGHT FUTURES PERIODICITY SCHEDULE WORKGROUP
Edward S. Curry, MD, FAAP
Paula M. Duncan, MD, FAAP
Mary Margaret Gottesman, PhD, RN, CPNP
Joseph F. Hagan, Jr, MD, FAAP
Judith S. Shaw, EdD, MPH, RN, FAAP
Jack T. Swanson, MD, FAAP
Lynn Van Pelt, DMD, CAPT — United States Public Health Service, Maternal and Child Health Bureau, Health Resources and Services, Administration — Federal Liaison to Steering Committee

STAFF
Jane B. Bassewitz, MA
## Recommendations for Preventive Pediatric Health Care

These guidelines are developed by the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) and Bright Futures. The AAP continues to emphasize the importance of comprehensive health supervision and the need to avoid fragmentation of care. Follow-up to the specific guidance by age as listed in Bright Futures guidelines for Hogan JF, Show JS, Duncan PM, et al. Bright Futures Guidelines for Health Supervision of Infants, Children, and Adolescents. 7th ed. Elk Grove Village, IL: American Academy of Pediatrics; 2008.

The recommendations in this document do not indicate an exclusive course of treatment or standard of medical care. Variations, taking into account individual circumstances, may be appropriate. Copyright © 2016 by the American Academy of Pediatrics, updated 10/2015.

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Changes made October 2015

- **Vision Screening**: The routine screening at age 18 has been changed to a risk assessment.
- Footnote 7 has been updated to read, “A visual acuity screen is recommended at ages 4 and 5 years, as well as in cooperative 3-year-olds. Instrumental-based screening may be used to assess risk at ages 12 and 24 months, in addition to the well visits at 3 through 5 years of age. See 2016 AAP statement, “Visual System Assessment in Infants, Children, and Young Adults by Peditricians” (www.pediatrics.org/cgi/content/full/137/1/e20153599) and “Procedures for the Evaluation of the Visual System by Donorists” (www.pediatrics.org/cgi/content/full/137/1/e20153597).

Changes made May 2015

- **Oral Health**: A subheading has been added for fluoride varnish, with a recommendation from 6 months through 5 years.
- Footnote 25 wording has been edited and also includes reference to the 2014 clinical report, “Fluoride Use in Caries Prevention in the Primary Care Setting” (http://pediatrics.aappublications.org/cgi/doi/10.1542/peds.2014-1699) and 2014 policy statement, “Maintaining and Improving the Oral Health of Young Children” (http://pediatrics.aappublications.org/content/134/9/1224.full).
- Footnote 26 has been added to the new fluoride varnish subheading. See USPSTF recommendations (www.usspreventionseviceasstffice.org/uspsti/usprethin.htm). Once teeth are present, fluoride varnish may be applied to all children every 3 to 6 months in the primary care or dental office. Indications for fluoride use are noted in the 2014 AAP clinical report “Fluoride Use in Caries Prevention in the Primary Care Setting” (http://pediatrics.aappublications.org/cgi/doi/10.1542/peds.2014-1699).

Changes made March 2014

- **Changes to Developmental/Behavioral Assessment**
  - **Alcohol and Drug Use Assessment**: Information regarding a recommended screening tool (CRAFFT) was added.
  - **Depression**: Screening for depression at ages 11 through 21 has been added, along with suggested screening tools.

- **Changes to Procedures**
  - **Dyslipidemia screening**: An additional screening between 9 and 11 years of age has been added. The reference has been updated to the AAP-endorsed National Heart Blood and Lung Institute policy (http://www.nhlbi.nih.gov/guidelines/cvd_ped/index.htm).
  - **Thrombocytopenia or Hemoglobin**: A risk assessment has been added at 15 and 30 months. The reference has been updated to the current AAP policy (http://pediatrics.aappublications.org/content/126/5/1049.full).
  - **STI/HIV screening**: A screen for HIV has been added between 16 and 18 years. Information on screening adolescents for HIV has been added in the footnotes. STI screening now references recommendations made in the AAP Red Book. This category was previously titled “STI screening.”
  - **Cervical dysplasia**: Adolescents should no longer be routinely screened for cervical dysplasia until age 21. Indications for pelvic examinations before age 21 are noted in the 2010 AAP statement “Gynecologic Examination for Adolescents in the Pediatric Office Setting” (http://pediatrics.aappublications.org/content/126/3/s353.full).
  - **Critical Congenital Heart Disease**: Screening for critical congenital heart disease using pulse oximetry should be performed in newborns, after 24 hours of age, before discharge from the hospital, per the 2011 AAP statement, “Endorsement of Health and Human Services Recommendation for Pulse Oximetry Screening for Critical Congenital Heart Disease” (http://pediatrics.aappublications.org/content/126/1/90.full).

See www.aap.org/periodicityschedule for additional updates made to footnotes and references in March 2014.