

2024 Pediatric and Adolescent Preventive Health Guidelines: Ages 7 through 18 Years

The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA, P.L. 111-148, March 23, 2010, as amended) requires, among other things, coverage of Bright Futures Children and Adolescent Recommendations and all A and B Recommendations as promulgated by the United States Preventive Services Task Force (USPSTF). Recommendations can be found at

https://downloads.aap.org/AAP/PDF/periodicity_schedule.pdf?_ga=2.123517835.1012687934.1671222549-249991078.1667565696 and https://www.uspreventiveservicestaskforce.org/uspstf/recommendation-topics/uspstf-a-and-b-recommendations

History and Physical Exam	Description	References
Well Child Exam:	7 to 18 years annually	1. AAP (2000)
	These guidelines apply to healthy children.	2. Bright Futures (2008)
	Children with medical conditions may require	
	additional follow-up.	
- Weight	All well child visits	1. AAP (2000) Updated 2007
		2. AAFP (2002) Updated 2005
- Height	All well child visits	3. USPSTF (1996) Updated
		2004,
- BMI percentile	All well child visits beginning at 2 yr.	2010, 2018
	Calculate and plot BMI once a year in all children	4. CDC (2004)
	and adolescents	5. Expert consensus opinion of
		the 2008 Preventive Health
	Children with a BMI at or above the 95th	QI
	percentile (obese or hypoventilation syndrome)	Committee
	would be allowed four (4) preventive health office	6. Alliance for a Healthier

History and Physical Exam	Description	References
	follow-up visits specifically for obesity per year and a blood pressure taken; unlimited nutritional counseling visits specifically for obesity per year and one (1) set of recommended laboratory studies (lipid profile, hemoglobin A1c, AST, ALT and fasting glucose)	Generation (2011)
	Children with a BMI at or above the 85th percentile(through the 94th percentile (overweight) would be allowed four (4) preventive health office follow-up visits specifically for obesity per year and a blood pressure taken; unlimited nutritional counseling visits specifically for obesity per year and one (1) set of recommended laboratory studies (lipid profile, hemoglobin A1c, AST, ALT and fasting glucose)	
- Blood Pressure	In addition, the USPSTF recommends that children aged 6 years and older should be screened for obesity (age and gender-specific BMI at ≥ 95 th percentile) and offered or referred to comprehensive, intensive behavioral interventions to promote improvement in weight status. USPSTF – B Recommendation	
- Vision Screening	All well child visits. The USPSTF recommends screening for high blood pressure in adults aged 18 years or older with ambulatory blood pressure monitoring, or ABPM measurements outside of the clinical	1. AAP (2000) Updated 2005 2.USPSTF, 2007, 2015

History and Physical Exam	Description	References
Assessment: - Distance Visual Acuity - Ocular Alignment - Ocular Media Clarity	setting for diagnostic confirmation before starting treatment. A Recommendation 8 year, 10 year, 12 year, 15 year, and when indicated. If patient is uncooperative, re-screen within 6 months. *This is not an optical exam. Optical exams require additional vision benefits.	 AAP (2000) Updated 2005 USPSTF(1996) Updated 2004 Bright Futures (2008), 2021
Hearing Screening	8 years, 10 years, once between: 11-14; 15-17; 18-21 years. Children identified at risk for hearing loss should be objectively screened annually.	 AAP (2000) Updated 2005 USPSTF(2001) Updated 2004 Bright Futures 2018
Development/ Behavioral Assessment	All well child visits.	1. AAP (2000) Updated 2003 2. USPSTF(2001) Updated 2004
Depressive Disorders	The USPSTF recommends screening for major depressive disorder (MDD) in adolescents aged 12 to 18 years. B Recommendation The USPSTF recommends screening for depression in the general adult population (age 18 and older), including pregnant and postpartum women. Screening should be implemented with adequate systems in place to ensure accurate diagnosis, effective treatment, and appropriate follow-up. USPSTF – B Recommendation	USPSTF(2002) Updated 2009, 2016, 2022
	Depression screening every year from ages 12 through 21 (Bright Futures). Different tests can be used for screenings (This list is not all-inclusive). • PHQ- 9	

History and Physical Exam	Description	References
	PHQ-A.PSY-Y	Bright Futures (2014), 2021
Anxiety Screening	The USPSTF Recommends screening for anxiety in children and adolescents aged 8 to 18 years . B Recommendation	USPSTF 2022

History and Physical Exam	Description	References
Anticipatory Guidance/ Psychosocial Screening/Sexual History & Reproductive Guidance	At office visits Anticipatory Guidance/Psychosocial Screening: The USPSTF recommends that clinicians screen adults aged 18 years or older for alcohol misuse and provide persons engaged in risky or hazardous drinking with brief behavioral counseling interventions to reduce alcohol misuse. B Recommendation The USPSTF recommends that primary care clinicians provide interventions, including education or brief counseling, to prevent initiation of tobacco use among school-aged children and adolescents. B Recommendation. April 2020 The U.S. Preventive Services Task Force (USPSTF) recommends that clinicians provide interventions, including education or brief counseling, to prevent initiation of tobacco use among school-aged children and adolescents. B	 AAP (2000) Updated 2009 AAFP (2001) Updated 2005 USPSTF (1996) 2008, 2012, 2013, 2015, 2017, 2020 AAPD (2003) ACOG (2006)
	Recommendation Adults who are not pregnant: The USPSTF recommends that clinicians ask all adults about tobacco use, advise them to stop using tobacco, and provide behavioral interventions and U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA)—approved pharmacotherapy for cessation to adults who use tobacco. A Recommendation Pregnant women: The USPSTF recommends that clinicians ask all pregnant women about tobacco	

History and Physical Exam	Description	References
	use, advise them to stop using tobacco, and provide behavioral interventions for cessation to pregnant women who use tobacco. A Recommendation	
	Promote smoke-free household nutrition/exercise, annual dental exam, child abuse / domestic violence and maintain adequate calcium intake to prevent osteoporosis.	
	To prevent rickets and vitamin D deficiency in healthy children and adolescents, a vitamin D intake of at least 400 IU/day is recommended.	
	Routine Iron Supplementation for children who are at increased risk for iron deficiency anemia.	
	Anticipatory Guidance Sexual History & Reproductive Guidance: Age appropriate discussions to include but not limited to normal growth, development and maturation, the benefits of healthy lifestyle behaviors and choices, health education related to sexual choices including abstinence/birth control/safe sex,	
	The USPSTF recommends that all women planning or capable of pregnancy take a daily supplement containing 0.4 to 0.8 mg (400 to 800 µg) of folic acid.— A Recommendation	

History and Physical Exam	Description	References
Safety Issues	At office visits Safety Issues – age appropriate discussions include: Traffic Safety: bicycle safety, car seats, motorcycle helmet use, seatbelts, ATVs, teenage driving, pickup truck bed riding, skateboards, scooters, inline skating. Burn Prevention: hot water temperature, smoke detectors, electrical outlets, grills, irons, ovens, fires Choking Prevention: choking/suffocation, Drowning Prevention: water safety, buckets, bathtubs, lifejackets, diving, and pool safety. Firearm Safety: in home firearms, storage Sports Safety: protective equipment, conditioning, appropriate and thorough sports H&P if indicated, AAP Pre Participation Physical Evaluation form, counseling against inappropriate nutrient supplements. Heat Stress in Exercising. Poison Prevention; phone number for poison control center. Instructions on how to call for help local emergency services, CPR Domestic Violence: The U.S. Preventive Services Task Force (USPSTF) recommends that clinicians screen women of childbearing age for intimate	1. AAP (2000) Updated 2008 2. AAFP (1996) Updated 2005 3. USPSTF (1996) Updated 2004, 2012, 2018 4. Pediatrics (2007) 5. AAP (2009)
	partner violence (IPV), such as domestic violence, and provide or refer women who screen positive to intervention services. This recommendation applies to women who do not have signs or	
	symptoms of abuse. B Recommendation.	

History and Physical Exam	Description	References
	Examples of IPV Screening Tools (not a comprehensive list) • Woman Abuse Screening Tool (WAST • HITS • Humiliation, Afraid, Rape, Kick (HARK) from: BMC Fam Pract. 2007; 8: 49 – Permission required • RADAR • Personalized Safety Plan The USPSTF recommends counseling young adults, adolescents, children, and parents of young children about minimizing exposure to ultraviolet (UV) radiation for persons aged 6	
	months to 24 years with fair skin types to reduce their risk of skin cancer. B Recommendation.	
	Sun exposure (tanning beds), depression/suicide, bug safety, occupational hazards, school hazards, recreational hazards such as on playgrounds and back yards, body piercing, tattoos, and other high risk behaviors such as cutting behavior, and the choking game.	
	Syrup of ipecac is no longer to be used as a home treatment strategy.	

Laboratory Screening	Description	References
Tuberculosis	• 12 months to 18 years when indicated A Mantoux should be done upon recognition of high risk factors. Community and personal risk factors should determine frequency. Tine test use is discouraged.	 AAP (2000) Updated 2003 USPSTF (1996) Updated 2004 Bright Futures
Cholesterol Screening	 24 months to 18 years when indicated Screen for dyslipidemia once in patients between 9 and 11 years old (Bright Futures) If family history cannot be obtained and other high risk factors are present, screening should be done at the discretion of the physician. 	 AAP (2000) Updated 2003 Bright Futures (2014) 2018
Chlamydia/ Gonorrhea and other STD	STI Screening	1. AAP (2000) Updated 2003
Screening	Chlamydia: The USPSTF recommends screening for chlamydia in sexually active women age 24 years or younger and in older women who are at increased risk for infection. USPSTF – B Recommendation Gonorrhea: The USPSTF recommends screening for gonorrhea in sexually active women age 24 years or younger and in older women who are at increased risk for infection. USPSTF – B Recommendation	 USPSTF (1996) 2007, 2012, 2014, 2016, 2019, 2020,2022 AAFP (1996) Updated 2005 CDC (2006) Bright Futures (2014)2018, 2023
	Human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) The USPSTF recommends that clinicians screen for HIV infection in adolescents and adults aged 15 to 65 years. Younger adolescents and older adults who are at increased risk of infection should also be screened. A recommendation updated June 2019.	

Laboratory Screening	Description	References
	The USPSTF recommends that clinicians screen for HIV infection in all pregnant persons, including those who present in labor or at delivery whose HIV status is unknown. A recommendation updated June 2019. Bright Futures expanded the age range for a one-time general population check for HIV from 15-18 years to 15-21 years. 1.2023 Final Release	
	Syphilis: Screen all patients at increased risk for syphilis USPSTF A Recommendation	
	The USPSTF recommends screening for syphilis infection in persons who are at increased risk for infection. A Recommendation	
STI Counseling		
	Hepatitis C: The USPSTF recommends screening for hepatitis C virus (HCV) infection in adults aged 18 to 79 years. B Recommendation. March 2020	
	Hepatitis B: The USPSTF recommends screening for hepatitis B virus (HBV) infection in persons at high risk for infection. B recommendation for non-pregnant adolescents and adults	
	The USPSTF recommends intensive behavioral counseling for all sexually active adolescents and for	

Laboratory Screening	Description	References
	adults who are at increased risk for sexually transmitted infections. B Recommendation	
Papanicolaou Test (Pap Smear)	The USPSTF recommends against screening for cervical cancer in women younger than age 21 years. The USPSTF recommends against screening for cervical cancer with HPV testing, alone or in combination with cytology, in women younger than age 30 years. ACOG/ACS/ASCCP/ASCPS all mirror USPSTF recommendations.	 AAP (2000) Updated 2003 USPSTF (1996) Updated 2004,2011, 2012 ACOG (2000) Updated 2010,2011 AAFP (2005) ACS American Cancer Society (2012) ASCCP American Society for Colposcopy (2012) ASCPS American Society for Clinical Pathology (2012)
Genetic Risk Assessment and BRCA Mutation Testing for Breast and Ovarian cancer Susceptibility	The USPSTF recommends that primary care clinicians assess women with a personal or family history of breast, ovarian, tubal, or peritoneal cancer or who have an ancestry associated with breast cancer susceptibility 1 and 2 (BRCA1/2) gene mutations with an appropriate brief familial risk assessment tool. Women with a positive result on the risk assessment tool should receive genetic counseling and, if indicated after counseling, genetic testing. B recommendation updated August 2019. Different tests can be used for screenings (This list is not all-inclusive). B-REST FHS-7 Any one of the following indicates a risk of having a	1. USPSTF (2005) (2014) 2. AMA (2006) 3. USPSTF (2014) 2019
	BRCA mutation: • Personal and/or family history of breast cancer	

Laboratory Screening	Description	References
	 diagnosed under the age of 50. Personal and/or family history of ovarian cancer at any age. Women of Ashkenazi Jewish ancestry diagnosed with breast cancer or ovarian cancer at any age, regardless of family history. Personal and/or family history of male breast cancer. Affected relatives with a known BRCA1 or BRCA2 mutation. Bilateral breast cancer, especially if diagnosed at an early age. Breast cancer and ovarian cancer in the same person. 	
Behavioral Counseling for Prevention of CVD	The USPSTF recommends offering or referring adults who are overweight or obese and have additional cardiovascular disease (CVD) risk factors to intensive behavioral counseling interventions to promote a healthful diet and physical activity for CVD prevention. B Recommendation	(USPSTF 2014)

References

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