



**Louisiana Department of Health
Informational Bulletin 16-23
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Papanicolaou Test (Pap Test) Age Criteria

This bulletin provides notification of changes in age criteria for coverage of the Papanicolaou Test (Pap Test). The American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists guidelines (ACOG) does not recommend cervical cancer screening of women younger than 21 years of age. Historically, Louisiana Medicaid covered Pap test for recipients 10 - 99 years of age. Effective with dates of service Jan. 1, 2017 and forward, Medicaid will no longer reimburse for routine cervical cancer screening for recipients under the age of 21 years.

However, Medicaid does consider cervical cancer screening medically necessary for recipients under age 21 who were exposed to diethylstilbestrol before birth, have human immunodeficiency virus, a weakened immune system or a history of cervical cancer or other criteria subsequently published by ACOG.

Providers must submit supporting documentation to the fiscal intermediary to have the age restriction bypassed for a specific clinical situation. It is the responsibility of the treating provider to provide the required documentation needed for billing purposes to the laboratory provider upon request.

Further instructions will follow for Medicaid fee for service claims submission when recipients are younger than age 21.

Please contact the appropriate Managed Care Organization for questions concerning their policies for their members. In addition, questions regarding legacy Medicaid should be directed to Molina Provider Relations at 1(800) 473-2783 or (225) 924-5040.