



PUBLIC HEALTH CONNECTION

MARCH/APRIL 2009

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EPSDT Care For Kids Program

Do you have a child under the age of 21 who is enrolled in Medicaid (Title 19)? If so, you may benefit from our Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnosis, and Treatment (EPSDT) program. The EPSDT program, otherwise known as the *Care For Kids* program, provides comprehensive child health care for Medicaid eligible children ages birth through twenty years.

The program was started in 1969 by the United States Congress. According to the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS),

there are two components of the EPSDT program:

- 1) Assuring the availability and accessibility of required health care resources.
- 2) Helping Medicaid recipients and their parents or guardians effectively use these resources.

The program includes regular medical and dental checkups. It also covers treatment for health problems identified during the checkups. There is NO COST to the families who

have a current Medicaid (Title 19) card.

EPSDT *Care For Kids* services include:

- Well Child Exams (Medical Checkups)
- Vision and Hearing Tests
- Immunizations (Shots)
- Dental Checkups
- Nutrition Information
- Transportation To These Services

If you do not have a regular doctor, dentist, or eye doctor, our staff can help you find one and schedule appointments. Our staff can also provide information about WIC, food banks, energy assistance, parenting programs, and more.

For More Information, Contact:
Scott County EPSDT Care For Kids Program
563-328-4114
Hours: Monday-Friday 8:00-4:30 p.m.



CAR SEAT SAFETY

NOTE FROM PUBLIC HEALTH SAFETY SERVICE AREA

Car crashes remain the number one killer of children ages 3 to 14 in the United States. The Quad Cities Safe Kids Coalition has been instrumental in the evolution of child passenger safety education through their “Buckle Up Car Seat Checkup” events. Child passenger safety technicians teach families how to safely transport their children. On

average, technicians spend about 30 minutes with each child.

Safe Kids suggest the use of a rear-facing car seat up to at least age one and twenty pounds. A rear-facing car seat can be used longer if the seat has higher weight and height limits. A forward-facing car seat can be used when a child is at least one year old.

Fit stations are scheduled for the third Saturday of each month at the Eldridge Medic Station (exit 127, Hwy 61) from 9:00 a.m. to noon, and the fourth Saturday of the month at the Davenport Fire Station 6 (1735 W. Pleasant) from 9:00 a.m. to noon.



Do You Know How to Properly Install a Car Seat?

PREVENT LEAD POISONING!

NOTE FROM ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICE AREA

Spring is fast approaching and you may be starting to think about projects for your home such as painting. Well, if your house is built before 1978, it is possible that there is lead-based paint in your home. The lead-based paint, dust, and chips can cause serious health problems. High amounts of lead can hurt the kidneys, nervous system, and the brain. It can also cause permanent brain damage and even death.

The major source of lead exposure is the result of peeling or chipping paint in older homes and the dust and soil that are polluted with lead from old paint and leaded gasoline. However, lead can also be found in some herbal remedies, certain candies from Mexico, some children’s jewelry, and even in some vinyl lunchboxes.

The good news is that lead poisoning is preventable! An important tip to prevent lead poisoning is to keep children

away from areas where paint is chipped or peeling. Also, leave shoes at the door to avoid tracking dust that could contain lead throughout your home. It is important to wash hands after working or playing outside, especially after being around dirt or sand. Do not allow children to chew on painted window sills, stair railings, porch railings, or anything that is painted. A blood lead test is the only way to know if your child is lead poisoned.

Call the Scott County Health Department to Learn More about Lead Poisoning!

VACCINES FOR CHILDREN PROGRAM

NOTE FROM CLINICAL HEALTH SERVICE AREA

Vaccines help to protect children and adolescents from dangerous childhood and communicable diseases. Vaccines for children and adolescents are available through local physicians, Community Health Care, Passport Health, and the Scott County Health Department.

The Scott County Health Department provides immunizations to Scott

County residents, birth through 18 years old, who meet eligibility requirements for the Vaccine for Children program.

To qualify for the Vaccine for Children program, the child or adolescent must be one of the following:

- Medicaid-eligible
- Uninsured
- Underinsured
- American Indian/ Alaskan Native

To get your eligible child or adolescent vaccinated at the Scott County Health Department, you are encouraged to make an appointment for the immunization clinic held on Wednesdays from 7:45 a.m. until 5:00 p.m.

Call 563-326-8618 to schedule an appointment. To learn more about our Immunization Program, visit our Web site at www.scottcountyiowa.com/health.



Are your children up-to-date on their vaccines?

SAFE KIDS COALITION

COMMUNITY PARTNER SPOTLIGHT:
SAFE KIDS COALITION

Safe Kids Worldwide was founded in 1987, and is the first and only international nonprofit organization dedicated solely to preventing unintentional childhood injury. Accidents kill one million children each year around the world and permanently disable many more. In fact, more children ages 1 to 14 years die from accidents such as motor vehicle crashes, fires, drowning, poisoning and falls than any other cause. And almost all of these injuries are preventable.

Safe Kids focus is on

promoting changes in attitudes, behaviors, laws and the environment to prevent accidental injury to children. Safe Kids depends on the support of grassroots networks in its 17 member countries to implement safety programs and hands-on training throughout the world.

These efforts have produced results. Canada achieved a 37 percent reduction in child accidental deaths in just seven years, the child death rate in Germany declined 80 percent since 1980, while Austria saw a 75 percent

decline between 1983 and 2003. In the United States, they have contributed to a 45 percent reduction in the child fatality rate from accidental injury, saving an estimated 38,000 children's lives.

Safe Kids safety programs include: Safe Kids Buckle Up, Child Passenger Safety and Safety In and Around Cars, Safe Kids Walk This Way Pedestrian Safety, Safe Kids Week, and National Standardized Child Passenger Safety Training Program.



DENTAL HEALTH IN YOUNG CHILDREN

NOTE FROM COMMUNITY RELATIONS,
INFORMATION AND PLANNING SERVICES

Your child's teeth play a role in talking, nutrition, and save space for adult teeth.

Did you know that children should have their first dental visit by 12 months of age? Children need dental care before problems start.

Cavities in young children are on the rise. Why is this? No one knows for sure, but there are some likely reasons.

Diet can change the dental health of children. Sugary foods and drinks put the teeth at risk for cavities. Sugary foods and drinks should be finished all at once. Snacking all day lets sugar linger on the teeth. Feed your child healthy snacks like fruits, veggies, milk and cheese.

Keep your child's teeth clean with daily brushing and

flossing! Did you know that children need help brushing until age eight? Two good times to brush are first thing in the morning and at night before bed. A healthy smile can help boost your child's confidence!

If you need help with dental care for your child call our I-Smile Coordinator at 563-326-8645.

**Children
Should
Have Their
First Dental
Visit By 12
Months**

IMPORTANCE OF WELL CHILD CHECKS

COMMON CONFUSIONS:
SETTING THE RECORD STRAIGHT

Has your child been to the doctor lately for a checkup? Well child checks are recommended at the following ages: newborn, 1 month, 2 months, 4 months, 6 months, 9 months, 12 months, 15 months, 18 months, 2 years, 3 years,

4 years, 5 years, 6 years, 8 years, 10 years, 12 years, 14 years, 16 years, 18 years, and 20 years. Not only are checkups important to monitor a child's development, but they can be used for enrollment in day-care centers, Head Start,

school, and sports programs.

If you need help finding a doctor or dentist for your child, the Scott County *Care For Kids* program can help! Call 563-328-4114 to speak with a child health consultant.



*Has Your Child Had a
Checkup Lately?*

SCOTT COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

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Web site: www.scottcountyiowa.com/health



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.



MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

- Sunday, March 8, 2009; Daylight Savings Time
- Thursday, March 19, 2009; 12:00-1:00 p.m.; Scott County Board of Health Meeting
Open to the Public; Location: Scott County Administrative Center, Board Room-1st Floor
- Tuesday, April 7 and Wednesday, April 8, 2009; Iowa Public Health Conference.
Register online at www.iowapha.org under Events.
- Thursday, April 16, 2009; 12:00-1:00 p.m.; Scott County Board of Health Meeting
Open to the Public; Location: Scott County Administrative Center, Board Room-1st Floor

Please note that the Scott County Health Department newsletter will now be published bi-monthly, effective March 2009.

OUR MISSION:

The Scott County Health Department is committed to promoting, protecting and preserving the health of the community by providing leadership and direction as advocates for the individual, the family, the community and the environment we serve.

OUR VISION:

As recognized and respected leaders in serving and protecting our citizens, we at the Scott County Health Department are committed to a safer, healthier community and environment. In so doing, we provide a multitude of services with Professionalism, Responsiveness, Involvement, Dedication, and Excellence.

GO GREEN!

If you would like to receive this newsletter electronically, please add your name to our e-mail list on our Web site, www.scottcountyiowa.com/health. To remove your name from our mailing list, please e-mail health@scottcountyiowa.com or call 563-326-8618.

