
PROVIDER BULLETIN



Initial Health Assessment (IHA)

Preferred IPA recognizes the importance of preventive care and would like to remind PCP's to give all new members an Initial Health Assessment (within 90 days for Medicare and Covered CA & 120 days for Medi-Cal). The IHA includes a complete history and physical exam, as well as the Staying Healthy Assessment (SHA). *Please contact your new members to schedule an IHA and document all attempts to schedule the appointment.* Documented attempts that show the doctor's unsuccessful efforts to contact the member for an IHA are considered evidence in meeting the IHA requirements.

Staying Healthy Assessment

The Staying Healthy Assessment (SHA) was developed to identify high risk behaviors and promote appropriate referrals, follow-up & documentation. A few words of advice from you can have a significant impact on changing your patients' high-risk behavior. The assessment is voluntary and all refusals to complete it should be documented in the patient's medical record. Provider training is a required component of the SHA. An online Los Angeles County SHA Training is available at www.lacare.org. You can download SHA forms and tip sheets in all LA County threshold languages at www.dhcs.ca.gov.

Most Common Deficiencies-IHA Medical Record Review

- TB screening for ALL members (all residents of LA County are considered high risk)
- Staying Healthy Assessment form (SHA)
- Age-appropriate immunizations (children and adults)
- Lab screening per Periodicity schedule (AAP and CHDP)
- Dental screening and referral starting at age 3 and earlier if warranted
- Mammogram at age 50 and over
- Cervical screening test for all sexually active women
- Sickle cell (SCA) trait testing (if appropriate)
- HPV immunization offered to age-appropriate females (ages 9-26)
- Coordination between Specialist and PCP (i.e., Specialist notes or notation by PCP that a referral was made and followed through)