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3 Title: Insurance Coverage of Adverse Childhood Experiences Screening
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5 Introduced by: Laura Carravallah, MD
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7 Original Authors: Elizabeth Anteau, Aleena Hajek, Rachel Hollander, and Laura Carravallah, MD
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9 Referred To: Reaffirmation Calendar
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11 House Action:

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14 Whereas, adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) are events in childhood that are potentially
15 stressful and traumatic, such as experiencing abuse or neglect, witnessing violence, or being in a
16 household with substance abuse or instability, and

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18 Whereas, ACEs have been proven to negatively impact health outcomes and have lasting
19 effects associated with injuries, mental health, maternal health, infectious disease, chronic disease,
20 risky behaviors, and social opportunities, and

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22 Whereas, of those investigated in the Kaiser ACEs study, approximately two-thirds reported
23 one or more ACEs, and more than 20 percent reported experiencing more than three, and

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25 Whereas, early detection of ACEs can help to decrease their negative health effects by
26 providing earlier intervention and increasing access to resources, and

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28 Whereas, existing MSMS policy on Routine ACE Screening in Pediatric Appointments states,
29 "That MSMS supports screening for adverse childhood experiences in annual pediatric
30 appointments and shall advocate for such screening," and

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32 Whereas, a 2016 study found that physicians listed "inadequate reimbursement" as a
33 moderate/severe barrier to ACEs screening, and

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35 Whereas, in October 2019, the California Department of Health Care Services and California
36 Office of the Surgeon General adopted the goal of reducing ACEs and "toxic stress by half in one
37 generation," and

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39 Whereas, California has recently adopted a reimbursement plan via Medi-cal of \$29 per
40 ACEs screening for primary care physicians in order to accomplish the previously stated goal;
41 therefore be it

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43 RESOLVED: That MSMS support and advocate for insurance reimbursement for Adverse
44 Childhood Events (ACEs) screening of the pediatric population.

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47 WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE FISCAL NOTE: None

Relevant MSMS Policy:

Routine ACE Screening in Pediatric Appointments

MSMS supports screening for adverse childhood experiences in annual pediatric appointments. (Board Action Report #2, 2019 HOD, re Res29-18)

Relevant AMA Policy:

Adverse Childhood Experiences and Trauma-Informed Care H-515.952

1. Our AMA recognizes trauma-informed care as a practice that recognizes the widespread impact of trauma on patients, identifies the signs and symptoms of trauma, and treats patients by fully integrating knowledge about trauma into policies, procedures, and practices and seeking to avoid re-traumatization. 2. Our AMA supports: a. evidence-based primary prevention strategies for Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs); b. evidence-based trauma-informed care in all medical settings that focuses on the prevention of poor health and life outcomes after ACEs or other trauma at any time in life occurs; c. efforts for data collection, research and evaluation of cost-effective ACEs screening tools without additional burden for physicians; d. efforts to educate physicians about the facilitators, barriers and best practices for providers implementing ACEs screening and trauma-informed care approaches into a clinical setting; and e. funding for schools, behavioral and mental health services, professional groups, community and government agencies to support patients with ACEs or trauma at any time in life.

Sources:

1. Preventing adverse childhood experiences. (2020, April 03). Retrieved February 08, 2021, from https://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/aces/fastfact.html?CDC_AA_refVal=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.cdc.gov%2Fviolenceprevention%2Facestudy%2Ffastfact.html
2. About the CDC-Kaiser ACE Study. (2020, April 13). Retrieved February 08, 2021, from https://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/aces/about.html?CDC_AA_refVal=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.cdc.gov%2Fviolenceprevention%2Facestudy%2Fabout.html
3. CA launches First-of-its-kind aces Initiative; Beginning Jan. 1, 2020, Medi-cal will begin paying for ACEs screenings. (2019, December 10). Retrieved February 08, 2021, from <https://www.cmadoocs.org/newsroom/news/view/ArticleId/28226/California-launches-first-of-its-kind-ACEs-initiative-Beginning-Jan-1-2020-Medi-Cal-providers-can-be-paid-for-ACEs-screenings>
4. Szilagyi, M., MD, PhD. (2016). Pediatricians' perceived barriers to addressing early brain and child development and inquiring about child/parent adverse childhood experiences. Retrieved February 08, 2021, from <https://www.aap.org/en-us/professional-resources/Research/research-findings/Pages/Pediatricians-Perceived-Barriers-to-Addressing-Early-Brain-and-Child-Development-and-Inquiring.aspx>
5. Trauma screenings and Trauma-Informed care Provider Trainings. Retrieved February 08, 2021, from <https://www.dhcs.ca.gov/provgovpart/Pages/TraumaCare.aspx#:~:text=Detecting%20ACEs%20early%20and%20connecting,adults%20with%20Medi%2DCal%20coverage>