

School Based Health Centers and Supporting Vision Needs in Students

Tresa M.S. Wiggins MSN, RN, CPNP-PC.
SR. NP at the Rales Health Center
JHU School of Medicine

Relevant Disclosures

I have no financial disclosures to report

Standard

- Recommendations in Maryland SBHC guidelines:
 - "Preventive services care is consistent with EPSDT guidelines"
 - i.e. vision screening per EPSDT schedule
- Vision screening may also be indicated for other visits, including:
 - Headache
 - Assessment for ADHD or behavioral evaluations
 - Dizziness
 - Neurologic concern
 - Eye injury

A Role in Expanded Services

- In current MD SBHC guidelines - not discussed
- Opportunity to expand screening services in SBHC include:
 - Clinical Coordination with school, school nurse, and community partners for expanded screening
 - Universal screenings for students **enrolled** in SBHC
 - Reimbursement eligible



Follow Up

The role of SBHCs in vision care follow up

SBHCs Follow Up for Referral

Historically, eye exams (optometry and ophthalmology) are not currently included in expanded services list options for SBHCs in Maryland

- Vision follow up is a service offered in other states in SBHCs with either dedicated full-service optometry offices or onsite clinics
- Some examples include NYC and OH.... info below if you wish to read more about these
 - <https://nyulangone.org/news/school-based-health-center-improves-vision-brooklyn-children>
 - <https://www.nationwidechildrens.org/specialties/school-health-services/vision-care>

Follow Up and SBHC Opportunities

- Serve as the home of a school-based vision program - various components can include:
 - Coordinate and support community partners in school relationship for exams
 - Hold glasses
 - Support families in obtaining new glasses
 - Some case management codes may be reimbursable-
 - Help with insurance issues - re-establish insurance etc
 - Generate referral when needed
 - Support family in connecting w/ schools for IEP/504 plans r/t vision needs

Program Example - Rales Health Center

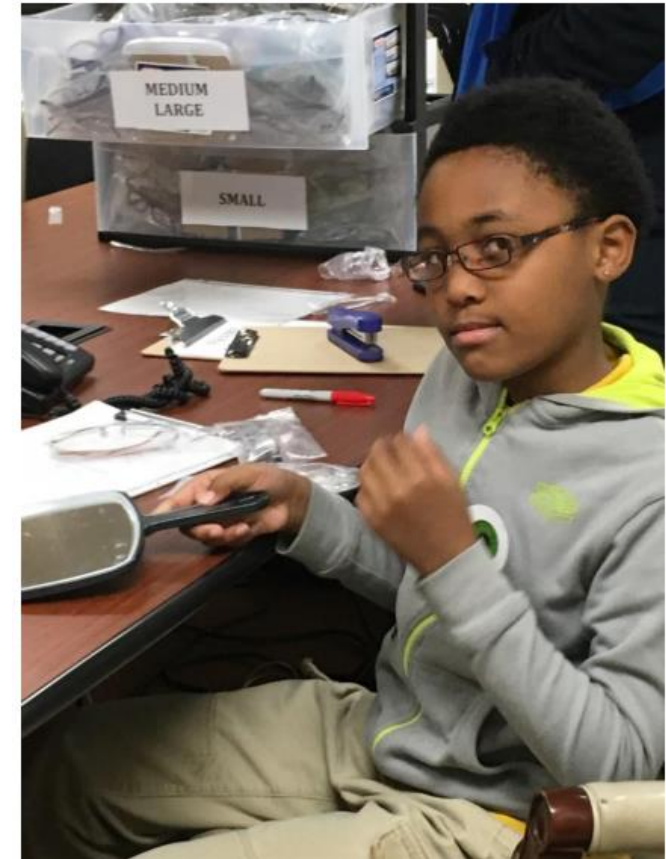
Expanded
vision
screening

Referral **for**
further eye
exam

Community
partnership

Glasses
wearing and
teacher
assistance

Community
partnership
follow up /
case
management



Expanding Your Vision Program: Where to Start

Considerations in Building a School-Based Vision Program

Ambrosino CM, Callan J, Wiggins TMS, Repka MX, Collins ME. Considerations in Building a School-Based Vision Program. J Sch Nurs. 2024 Oct;40(5):574-583. doi: 10.1177/10598405231163753. Epub 2023 Mar 28. PMID: 36974515.

School-Based Delivery of Vision Care in Chicago Public Schools

Storey N, Stafford-Hudson K, Harrow I, Tow B, Seo JY, Vidis JD, Collins M. School-Based Delivery of Vision Care in Chicago Public Schools. J Sch Health. 2023 Apr;93(4):324-330. doi: 10.1111/josh.13273. Epub 2022 Nov 19. PMID: 36401570.

References

VISION SCREENING GUIDELINES Maryland State School Health Services Guidelines June 2023

https://marylandpublicschools.org/about/Documents/DSFSS/SSSP/SHS/SHSGuidelines/VisionScreening_5.2023.pdf

Maryland EPSDT guidelines

https://health.maryland.gov/mmcp/epsdt/healthykids/pdf/SectionIII_pp13-20.pdf

Billing Maryland Medicaid: Guidance for SBHCs

<https://health.maryland.gov/pophealth/Documents/Local%20Health%20Department%20Billing%20Manual/PDF%20Manual/Section%20IV/SBHC%20Introduction%20to%20Billing%20and%20Coding.pdf>

MARYLAND MEDICAID SCHOOL-BASED HEALTH CENTER (SBHC) PROVIDER MANUAL

<https://health.maryland.gov/mmcp/Documents/MD%20Medicaid%20SBHC%20Provider%20Billing%20Manual%20updated%208.2.24.pdf>



Thank you

Tresa M.S. Wiggins

Tschuma1@JHU.EDU