

## Encourage Routine Vaccines and Well-Care Visits for Children and Teens

Many children and adolescents are still catching up on missed routine immunizations and well-care visits, according to the [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#). The CDC recommends [doctors and health care professionals encourage families](#) to **schedule vaccines and visits** for their children. See our [Children's Wellness Guidelines](#) for a **routine immunization schedule**.

### Tracking our Members' Care

We track these Healthcare Effectiveness Data and Information Set (HEDIS®) measures developed by the National Committee for Quality Assurance to help close gaps in our members' care:

**Child Immunization Status** tracks the percentage of 2-year-olds who received the following vaccines by their 2nd birthday:

- Four diphtheria, tetanus and acellular pertussis (DTaP)
- Three polio (IPV)
- One measles, mumps and rubella (MMR)
- Three haemophilus influenza type B (HiB)
- Three hepatitis B (HepB)
- One chicken pox (VZV)
- Four pneumococcal conjugate (PCV)
- One hepatitis A (HepA)
- Two or three rotavirus (RV) before 1 year of age
- Two influenza (Flu)

**Immunizations for Adolescents** tracks the percentage of 13-year-olds who received the following vaccines by their 13<sup>th</sup> birthday:

- One dose of meningococcal vaccine (MenACWY)
- One tetanus, diphtheria and pertussis (Tdap)
- The complete human papillomavirus vaccine (HPV) series

### Child and Adolescent Well-Care Visits

- [Well-Child Visits in the First 30 Months of Life](#) measures the percentage of children who had at least six well-child visits with a primary care physician during their first 15 months, and two or more well-child visits during their next 15 months.
- [Child and Adolescent Well-Care Visits](#) tracks the percentage of members ages 3 to 21 who received at least one well-care visit with a PCP or OB-GYN during the measurement year.

### Tips to Consider

- Identify members who have missed vaccines or well-child visits. Contact their caregivers to **schedule appointments**.
- Check at each visit for any missing immunizations. **Address common misconceptions** about vaccines.
- Remind our members that it's important to **get a flu shot every year** because new strains of flu virus appear each year. The [CDC recommends](#) that most people 6 months and older should get a flu vaccine every year.

- **To document well-child visits**, note that the visit was with a PCP and include in the medical record:
  - Date of visit
  - Health history
  - Physical and mental development history
  - Physical exam
  - Height, weight and body mass index percentile
  - Health education or anticipatory guidance, including physical activity, diet and nutrition
- We collect immunization data through claims and chart review. **To document immunizations**, you may include in the medical record any of the following:
  - Certificates of immunizations
  - Diagnostic reports
  - Subjective, Objective, Assessment and Plan (SOAP) notes
  - Office or progress notes

#### Resources

- BCBSTX [preventive care guidelines](#) on immunization schedules
- Information on childhood [vaccines](#) and [well-visits](#) for our members
- CDC recommendations on [COVID-19 vaccines](#) for children and teens
- Texas Immunization Registry [ImmTrac2](#)
- For Medicaid providers: [Quality Improvement Toolkits and Tip Sheets](#)
- For Medicaid medical providers: [Texas Health Steps](#)

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