



IMPROVING HEALTH CARE QUALITY

## Childhood Immunization Status

Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Texas (BCBSTX) collects quality data from our providers to measure and improve the quality of care our members receive. Childhood immunization status (CIS) is one aspect of care we measure in our quality programs.\*

### What We Measure

To evaluate the level of care our members receive regarding childhood immunizations, we capture the percentage of children who received by their second birthday a total of:

- One MMR (Measles, Mumps, Rubella)
- One Hep A (Hepatitis A)
- One VZV (Varicella)
- Two influenza (flu) vaccines
- Two or three RV (Rotavirus)
- Three Hep B (Hepatitis B)
- Three IPV (Polio)
- Three HiB (Haemophilus Influenza Type B)
- Four DTaP (Diphtheria, Tetanus, Acellular Pertussis)
- Four PCV (Pneumococcal)

\*MMR, VZV and Hep A vaccinations must be administered on or between the child's first and second birthdays to meet this measure's criteria.

CIS is a Healthcare Effectiveness Data and Information Set (HEDIS®) measure. See the [National Committee for Quality Assurance \(NCQA\) website](#) for more details.

### Why It Matters

Childhood vaccines protect children from serious and potentially life-threatening diseases such as diphtheria, measles, meningitis, polio, tetanus and whooping cough, at a time in their lives when they are most vulnerable to disease. About 300 children in the United States die each year from vaccine-preventable diseases. Immunizations are a critical aspect of preventive care. Vaccination coverage must be maintained to prevent a resurgence of vaccine-preventable diseases. Learn more from [NCQA](#).



## Eligible Population

Members who are 2 years old during the measurement year are included in this measure.

### Exclusions:

- Members with a contraindication for a specific vaccine can be excluded from the general population. For example, children with immunodeficiency may be excluded from MMR, VZV and influenza.
- Members with anaphylactic reaction to a vaccine or its components can be excluded from any particular vaccine.
- Members under hospice care are excluded from this measure.

## Ways to Improve

- Schedule office visits to coincide with immunization requirements.
- Use your electronic medical record system for pre-visit planning and to set alerts.
- Check at each visit for any missing immunizations.
- Remind parents that it's important to have their children immunized to protect themselves and others in their family, schools and community.
- Include in your medical records members' immunization history from all sources, such as hospitals, the local health department and previous providers.
- Submit claims and encounter data in a timely manner.
- Report all immunizations through your state immunization registry.

## How to Document

CIS data is collected through claims data and chart review. Acceptable forms of documentation are:

- Certificates of immunizations
- Diagnostic reports
- Subjective, Objective, Assessment and Plan (SOAP) notes
- Problem lists
- Office notes
- Progress notes

For more information, see [NCQA's HEDIS Measures and Technical Resources](#).



### Questions?

Contact your BCBSTX Network Representative.



\* Quality measures evaluate a prior calendar year performance. Measure specifications are from the National Quality Forum (NQF) and/or National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA).

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