

HEDIS® Measures

- Chlamydia Screening in Women (CHL)
- Immunizations for Adolescents (IMA)



AmeriHealth Caritas Pennsylvania wants to help improve your quality ratings. The information below discusses key aspects of these specific HEDIS measures, provides useful administrative aid, and offers guidance. We are developing strategies to raise awareness in our member population.

Chlamydia Screening in Women (CHL)

HEDIS definition: Women ages 16 – 24 who were identified as sexually active and who had at least one test for chlamydia during the measurement year (MY).

Perform chlamydia screening every year on every females ages 16 – 24 identified as sexually active. Offer member the option to have the chlamydia screening performed through a urine test.

How to improve your HEDIS score

Evidence shows that some young adult patients may not be comfortable talking about their sexual history, sex partners, or sexual practices.

- Talk openly and clearly with patients about sexual health. Try to put them at ease and let them know that taking a sexual history is an important part of a regular medical exam or physical history.
- Consider adding a routine urine screening to all patients in the target age range to capture chlamydia results.

Immunizations for Adolescents (IMA)

When coding E&M and vaccine administration services on the same date you must append modifier 25 to the E&M.

HEDIS definition: Adolescents 13 years of age who have had each of the following:

- Meningococcal MCV (on or between 11th and 13th birthdays).
- Tdap or TD (on or between 10th and 13th birthdays).
- HPV (three doses with different dates of service on or between ninth and 13th birthdays or two doses with at least 146 days between the first and second dose on or between ninth and 13th birthdays).

You will need a note indicating the name of the specific antigen and the date of the immunization or a certificate of immunization prepared by an authorized health care provider or agency including the specific dates and types of immunizations administered.

How to improve your HEDIS score

To address common chart deficiencies:

- Adhere to appropriate time frames to avoid immunizations administered outside the specified time frames.
- Inquire about immunizations administered elsewhere (e.g., health departments, school clinics, urgent care facilities) and add to your charts.

Remember to submit the appropriate CPT codes to indicate these critical screenings have been performed.

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Tips to increase your vaccination rate

- **Bundle your recommendation for all adolescent vaccines**, including HPV vaccine, in the same way, on the same day. Ask, “What questions do you have about these vaccines?”
- **Train all staff with consistent message.** Starting with the front office, make sure that everyone is on the same page when it comes to proper vaccination practices, recommendations, and how to answer parents’ questions.
- **Use every opportunity to vaccinate.** Check patients’ immunization status at every visit and always recommend and administer vaccines your patients need. Call to remind families about getting vaccines if they fall behind or need follow-up doses to complete the series.
- **Provide personal examples of how you support vaccinations for your family members.** Sharing your personal experience may make parents more comfortable in their decision to vaccinate their child.
- **Effectively answer questions.** Be prepared to answer parents’ questions succinctly, accurately, and empathetically using terms they understand. A parent will often accept your explanations if presented with their children’s best interests in mind.

Source: Human Papillomavirus (HPV): 5 Ways to Boost Your HPV Vaccination Rates. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. <https://www.cdc.gov/hpv/hcp/boosting-vacc-rates.html>.



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