



# Texas Health Steps

Provider Training 2023



# Texas Health Steps – Training Objectives

## Goals:

- Define Texas Health Steps (THSteps)
- Assist providers and their staff with basic understanding and importance of THSteps
- Gain a better understanding of when services are due (“timeliness” of visits)
- Common billing and claims issues
- Where to obtain additional resources

## Who will benefit from this training:

- Physicians/ Healthcare Providers
- Office Managers, Nursing Staff
- Coding and Billing Staff



# What is Texas Health Steps (THSteps)

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THSteps is Texas' version of Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnosis, and Treatment (EPSDT). It is a program that provides regular medical checkups, dental checkups, case management services, and personal care services to infants, children, teens, and young adults enrolled in Medicaid at no cost to them.

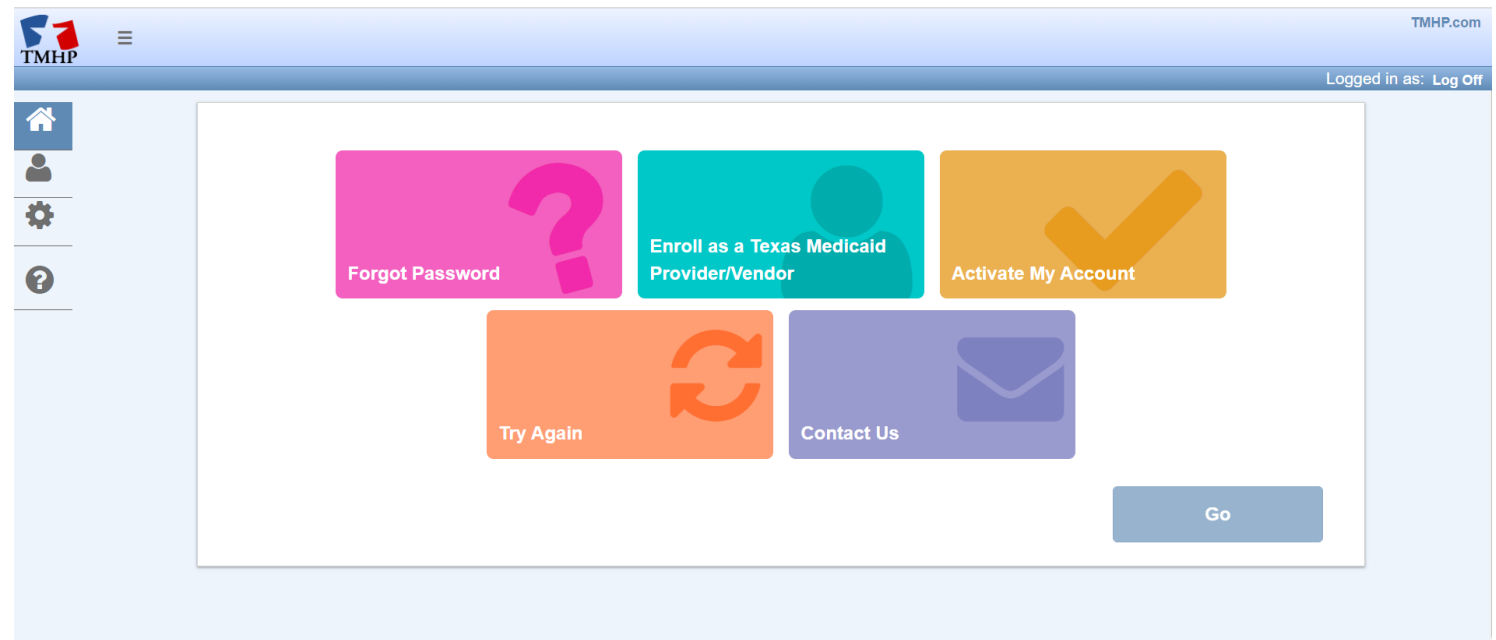
## What are THSteps services?

- Periodic Medical Checkups
- Dental Checkups and Treatment Services
- Diagnosis of Medical Conditions
- Medically Necessary Treatment and Services

# Texas Health Steps Provider Enrollment

Providers performing medical, dental, and case management services who wish to be eligible for reimbursement for providing Medicaid and Texas Health Steps services must enroll in these programs through the [Texas Medicaid and Healthcare Partnership](#).

- Providers enroll electronically through the online Provider Enrollment and Management System (PEMS) tool on the TMHP website at [www.tmhp.com](http://www.tmhp.com)



# THSteps: Timeliness

## Timely THSteps Medical Checkups:

- **New** ABHTX members are due a checkup **within 90 days** of enrollment for eligible child members. Newborns must have a checkup no later than **14 days of enrollment**.
- **Existing** ABHTX members should have a checkup based on their age range as indicated below:
  - Existing members checkup for children birth through 35 months of age are considered timely if conducted within 60 days of the periodicity due date.
  - Existing members 36 months of age and older should get a checkup on the child's birthday. It is considered timely if it occurs within 364 calendar days of the child's birthday.

## Medical Periodicity:

Children from birth through 20 years of age enrolled in Medicaid are due for THSteps medical checkups based on their date of birth and ages indicated on the Periodicity Schedule. Children under the age of 3 are due at more frequent intervals (to monitor growth and development, early detection, keep them up to date on vaccines). Children 3 years of age and older should get checkups every year, ideally on their birthday.

Age Range Allowed	Number of Checkups	Specific Ages
Birth through 11 months  (Does not include 12 months)	7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Birth</li> <li>• Discharge</li> <li>• 2 weeks</li> <li>• 2 months</li> <li>• 4 months</li> <li>• 6 months</li> <li>• 9 months</li> </ul>
1 through 4 years of age	7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 12 months</li> <li>• 15 months</li> <li>• 18 months</li> <li>• 24 months</li> <li>• 30 months</li> <li>• 3 years</li> <li>• 4 years</li> </ul>
5 through 11 years of age	7	Annually on birthday
12 through 17 years of age	6	Annually on birthday
18 through 20 years of age	3	Annually on birthday



AGE		History	Nutritional Screening	DEVELOPMENTAL SURVEILLANCE	MENTAL HEALTH	MEASUREMENTS	VISION	HEARING	LABORATORY TESTS	Health Education/Anticipatory Guidance															
			Review of Milestones	ASQ, ASQ:SE, PEDS, or SWWC	M-CHAT or M-CHAT-R/FTM	Length	Height	Weight	BMI	Fronto-Occipital Circumference	Blood Pressure	Visual Acuity	Subjective Vision	Newborn Hearing Test (OAE or ABR)	Audiometric Screening	Subjective Hearing	Dental Referral	Screen/Administer Immunizations According to ACIP Guidelines	Newborn Screening Panel	Blood Lead Screening	Anemia	Dyslipidemia	Type 2 Diabetes		
Newborn	D/C to 5 days																								
	2 weeks																								
Months	2																								
	4																								
	6																								
	9																								
	12																								
	15																								
	18																								
	24																								
	30																								
	Years	3																							
4																									
5																									
6																									
7																									
10																									

LEGEND	
<span style="background-color: #008080; width: 10px; height: 10px; display: inline-block;"></span>	Mandatory
<span style="background-color: #ADD8E6; width: 10px; height: 10px; display: inline-block;"></span>	If not completed at the required age, must be completed at the first opportunity if age appropriate.
<span style="background-color: #90EE90; width: 10px; height: 10px; display: inline-block;"></span>	For developmental, mental health, vision, or hearing screenings: when both colors appear at the same age, perform the most appropriate-level screen.
<span style="background-color: #FFD700; width: 10px; height: 10px; display: inline-block;"></span>	Recommended
<span style="background-color: #FF6347; width: 10px; height: 10px; display: inline-block;"></span>	Risk-based

Note: THSteps components may be performed at other ages if medically necessary. Check regularly for updates to this schedule: [texashealthsteps.com](http://www.texashealthsteps.com). For free online provider education: [texashealthsteps.com](http://www.texashealthsteps.com).



EO3-13634 June 1, 2021

An updated Periodicity Schedule is available via the Aetna Better Health Provider Manual which can be found on the ABH website at [www.aetnabetterhealth.com/texas](http://www.aetnabetterhealth.com/texas)

# Periodicity Schedule

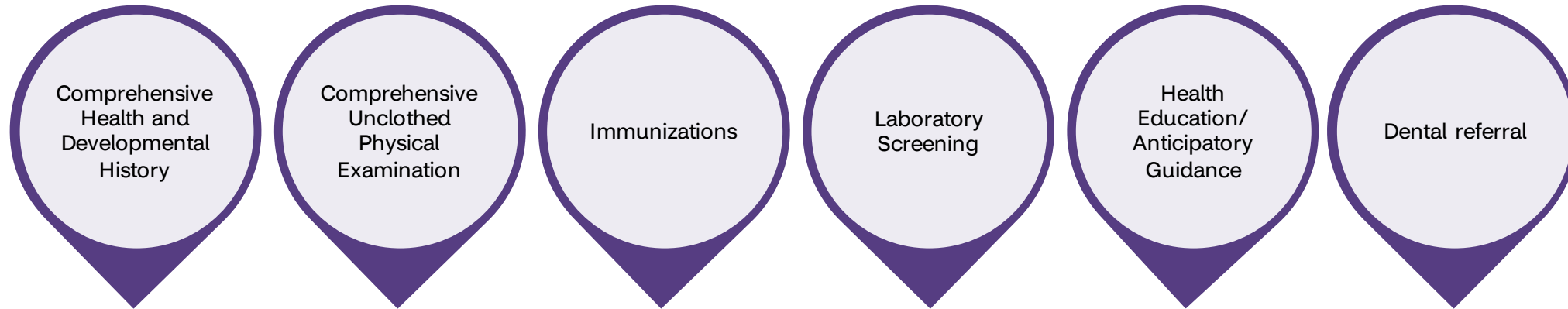
AGE		History	Nutritional Screening	MENTAL HEALTH	MEASUREMENTS	VISION	HEARING	LABORATORY TESTS	Health Education/Anticipatory Guidance									
				Mental Health: Psychosocial/ Behavioral Health Screening	Height	Weight	BMI	Blood Pressure	Visual Acuity	Subjective Vision	Audiometric Screening	Subjective Hearing	Dental Referral	Screen/Administer Immunizations According to ACIP Guidelines	Dyslipidemia	Type 2 Diabetes	STD/STI Screening	HIV Test
11-20	11																	
	12																	
	13																	
	14																	
	15																	
	16																	
	17																	
	18																	
	19																	
	20																	

\* Comprehensive Health Screening, as indicated below, consists of federal and state components that are required for the checkup to be considered complete. Refer to the Texas Medicaid Provider Procedures Manual (TMPPM) for further detail at [http://www.tmhp.com/Pages/Medicaid/Medicaid\\_Publications\\_Provider\\_manual.aspx](http://www.tmhp.com/Pages/Medicaid/Medicaid_Publications_Provider_manual.aspx). Find current Periodicity Schedule online at [texashealthsteps.com](http://www.texashealthsteps.com).



# Texas Health Steps Required Components

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A comprehensive medical checkup must include the following age-appropriate services as set out in the Texas Health Steps Periodicity Schedule:

- Comprehensive Health and Developmental History, including nutritional screening and mental health screening
- Comprehensive Unclothed Physical Examination, including measurements and sensory screening (vision and hearing)
- Immunizations
- Laboratory Screening
- Health Education/ Anticipatory Guidance provided to member's parent or guardian at end of THSteps visit
- Dental referral every 6 months until a dental home is established.

# Texas Health Steps Documentation: Medical Components

Documentation of all component must be included in client's medical record.

If a component was not completed, and a plan to complete the component(s) if not due to parent or caregiver concern or reasons of conscience, including religious beliefs.

## THS Medical Components

- History
- Unclothed Physical Exam
- Immunization
- Laboratory
- Health Education/Anticipatory Guidance
- Dental Referral

NAME:	MEDICAID ID:
DOB:	PRIMARY CARE GIVER:
GENDER: <input type="checkbox"/> MALE <input type="checkbox"/> FEMALE	PHONE:
DATE OF SERVICE:	INFORMANT:

<b>HISTORY</b>	<b>UNCLOTHED PHYSICAL EXAM</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> See new patient history form <b>INTERVAL HISTORY:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> NKDA <input type="checkbox"/> Allergies: Current Medications: Visits to other health-care providers, facilities: Parental concerns/changes/stressors in family or home: Psychosocial/Behavioral Health Issues, including Post-partum Depression Screening (use of validated tool required): <input type="checkbox"/> EPDS <input type="checkbox"/> PPDS <input type="checkbox"/> PHQ-9 <input type="checkbox"/> Other P <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> Findings: <input type="checkbox"/> TB questionnaire*, risk identified: Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Tuberculin Skin Test if indicated <input type="checkbox"/> TST (TB questionnaire, p. 2) <input type="checkbox"/> <b>DEVELOPMENTAL SURVEILLANCE:</b> • Gross and fine motor development • Communication skills/language development • Self-help/care skills • Social, emotional development • Cognitive development • Mental health <b>NUTRITION*:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Breastmilk Min per feeding: Number of feedings in last 24 hrs: <input type="checkbox"/> Formula (type) Oz per feeding: Number of feedings in last 24 hrs: Water source: Fluoride: Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Solids *See Bright Futures, Multiple-Choice, Appendix <input type="checkbox"/> <b>IMMUNIZATIONS</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Up to date <input type="checkbox"/> Deferred Reason (if deferred): Given today: <input type="checkbox"/> DTaP <input type="checkbox"/> Hep A <input type="checkbox"/> Hep B <input type="checkbox"/> Hib <input type="checkbox"/> IPV <input type="checkbox"/> MMR <input type="checkbox"/> PCV <input type="checkbox"/> Meningococcal* <input type="checkbox"/> Varicella <input type="checkbox"/> MMRV <input type="checkbox"/> Hib-Hep B <input type="checkbox"/> DTaP-IPV-Hep B <input type="checkbox"/> DTaP-IPV/Hib <input type="checkbox"/> Influenza Special populations: See AHR <input type="checkbox"/> <b>LABORATORY</b> Tests ordered today: Hgb/Hct: Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/> Blood lead test: Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/> Other: Signature/title	<input type="checkbox"/> See growth graph Weight: ( % ) Length: ( % ) Head Circumference: ( % ) Heart Rate: Respiratory Rate: Temperature (optional): <input type="checkbox"/> Normal (Mark here if all items are WNL) Abnormal (Mark all that apply and describe): <input type="checkbox"/> Appearance <input type="checkbox"/> Mouth/throat <input type="checkbox"/> Genitalia <input type="checkbox"/> Head/fontanelles <input type="checkbox"/> Teeth <input type="checkbox"/> Extremities <input type="checkbox"/> Skin <input type="checkbox"/> Neck <input type="checkbox"/> Back <input type="checkbox"/> Eyes <input type="checkbox"/> Heart/pulses <input type="checkbox"/> Musculoskeletal <input type="checkbox"/> Ears <input type="checkbox"/> Lungs <input type="checkbox"/> Hips <input type="checkbox"/> Nose <input type="checkbox"/> Abdomen <input type="checkbox"/> Neurological Abnormal findings: <input type="checkbox"/> <b>HEALTH EDUCATION/ANTICIPATORY GUIDANCE</b> (See back for useful topics) Selected health topics addressed in any of the following areas*: • Family Interactions • Nutrition • Setting Routines • Safety • Development/Behaviors *See Bright Futures for assistance <input type="checkbox"/> <b>ASSESSMENT</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>PLAN/REFERRALS</b> Dental Referral: Y <input type="checkbox"/> Other Referral(s): Return to office: Signature/title

CHILD HEALTH RECORD

CHILD HEALTH RECORD

Name:	Medicaid ID:
<b>Typical Developmentally Appropriate Health Education Topics</b>	
<b>12 Month Checkup</b> • Begin weaning from bottle/breast to cup • Discipline constructively using time-out for 1 minute/year of age • Encourage supervised outdoor play • Establish consistent limits/rules and consistent consequences • Limit TV time to 1-2 hours/day • Praise good behavior • Promote language using simple words • Provide age-appropriate toys • Provide favorite toy for self-soothing during sleep time • Read books and talk about pictures/story using simple words • Use distraction or choice of 2 appropriate options to avoid/resolve conflicts • Make 1:1 time for each child in family	• No bottle in bed • Provide nutritious 3 meals and 2 snacks; limit sweets/high-fat foods • Empty all buckets containing water • Home safety for fire/carbon monoxide poisoning, stair/window gates, electrical outlet covers, cleaning supplies, and medicines out of reach • Lock up guns • Provide safe/quality day care, if needed • Supervise within arm's length when near water/do not leave alone in bath water • Use of front-facing car seat in back seat of car if >20 pounds • Establish consistent bedtime routine • Establish routine and assist with tooth brushing with soft brush twice a day • Maintain consistent family routine • Provide nap time daily
<b>TB QUESTIONNAIRE</b> Place a mark in the appropriate box:	
	Yes      Do not know      No
Has your child been tested for TB? If yes, when (date)	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
Has your child ever had a positive Tuberculin Skin Test? If yes, when (date)	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
TB can cause fever that lasts for days or weeks, unexplained weight loss, a bad cough (lasting over two weeks), or coughing up blood. As far as you know:	
has your child been around anyone with any of these symptoms or problems? has your child been around anyone sick with TB? has your child had any of these symptoms or problems?	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
Was your child born in Mexico or any other country in Latin America, the Caribbean, Africa, Eastern Europe, or Asia?	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
Has your child traveled in the past year to Mexico or any other country in Latin America, the Caribbean, Africa, Eastern Europe, or Asia for longer than 3 weeks? If so, specify which country/countries?	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
To your knowledge, has your child spent time (longer than 3 weeks) with anyone who is/has been an intravenous (IV) drug user, HIV-infected, in jail or prison, or has recently come to the United States from another country?	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
<b>HEARING CHECKLIST FOR PARENTS (OPTIONAL)</b>	
	Yes      No
Ages 9 to 12 months	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
	<input type="checkbox"/> Points to or looks at familiar objects or people when asked to <input type="checkbox"/> Looks sad when scolded <input type="checkbox"/> Follows directions ("Open your mouth," "Give me the ball") <input type="checkbox"/> Dances and makes sounds to music <input type="checkbox"/> Uses jargon (appears to be talking) <input type="checkbox"/> Uses consonant sounds like b, d, g, m, and n when talking <input type="checkbox"/> Jabbers in response to a human voice, changes loudness of voice, and uses rhythm and tone
<b>EARLY CHILDHOOD INTERVENTION (ECI)</b>	
The ECI Physician Referral and Orders for Early Childhood Intervention (ECI) form is available at: <a href="https://hhs.texas.gov/services/disability/early-childhood-intervention-services/eci-information-health-medical-professionals">https://hhs.texas.gov/services/disability/early-childhood-intervention-services/eci-information-health-medical-professionals</a>	



ECHR-12M



11/2018



# THSteps: Comprehensive Health & Developmental History

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## Nutritional Screening

- Review of Measurement/BMI and Laboratory Screening
- Infants: Feeding Schedules
- Children and Adolescents: Dietary Practices
- Special Diets/Food allergies/Restaurants/Fast Food

## Developmental Surveillance and Screening

- Subjective review of milestones using standardized and validated screening tools, such as PEDS (Parents' Evaluation of Developmental Status) or SWYC. Objective screening using ASQ (Ages & Stages Questionnaire)
- A standardized developmental screening, or autism screening (M-CHAT) must be completed:
  - If missed at an earlier checkup and still age appropriate
  - New patient 6 months through 6 years of age if no record of previous age-appropriate screening
  - If there are provider or parental concerns at any visit through 6 years of age
- Referrals – If delayed or suspected delay is identified:
  - Birth through 35 months: The provider must refer to Early Childhood Intervention (ECI), as soon as possible, but no longer than seven days after identified, even if also referring to an appropriate specialist.
  - Ages 3 years and older: The provider is encouraged to refer to the appropriate school district program, even if also referring to an appropriate specialist

# THSteps: Developmental Screenings

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## Developmental Screening

- Required component at 9 months, 18 months, 24 months, 3 years, and 4 years of age
- Must be completed if missed earlier or provider and/or parental concerns at any visit through 6 years of age
- Procedure Code: 96110
  - Ages and Stages Questionnaire (ASQ)
  - Ages and Stages Questionnaire (ASQ:SE)
  - Parents' Evaluation of Development Status (PEDS)
  - Survey of Well-being of Young Child (SWYC)

## Autism Screening

- Required component at 18 months and 24 months of age
- Procedure Code: 96110
- Modifier: U6
  - Modified Checklist for Autism in Toddlers (M-CHAT)
  - Modified Checklist for Autism in Toddlers Revised with Follow-Up (M-CHAT R/F)

# THSteps: Comprehensive Health & Developmental History

## Mental Health Screening

- Includes Behavioral, Social, and Emotional Development; required at **each visit**
- Recommended (optional) screening for ages 12 through 18, using one of the validated and standardized mental health screening tools listed below (use procedure codes 96160 or 96161; along with CPT code 99384/99394; or 99385/99395)

- Pediatric Symptom Checklist (PSC-17)
- Pediatric Symptom Checklist (PSC-35)
- Pediatric Symptom Checklist (Y-PSC)
- Personal Health Questionnaire (PHQ-9)
- Car, Relax, Alone, Friends, Forget, Trouble (CRAFFT)

96160	Screening tool completed by the adolescent.
96161	Screening tool completed by the parent or caregiver on behalf of the adolescent.

**Tuberculosis Screening:** Administer the THSteps TB Questionnaire **annually** beginning at 12 months of age.

- The questionnaire is available at: [www.dshs.texas.gov/thsteps/forms.shtm](http://www.dshs.texas.gov/thsteps/forms.shtm)
- Administer a Tubercular Skin Test (TST) using CPT code 86580 if risk for possible exposure is identified
- A follow-up visit is required to read all TSTs. At follow-up visit use CPT code 99211

# Postpartum Depression Screening

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- If postpartum depression screening is completed, it must be submitted under the infant’s Medicaid client number and will be restricted to clients who are 12 months of age and younger.

Validated screening tools may include the following:

- [Edinburgh Postnatal Depression Scale](#)
- Postpartum Depression Screening Scale
- [Patient Health Questionnaire 9](#)

G8431	Positive Screening for depression, follow-up plan is documented
G8510	Negative Screening for depression, follow-up plan is not required

- Screening alone is insufficient for improving clinical outcomes.
  - A positive screening for postpartum depression requires a referral plan with the mother
  - Provider must note that a referral plan was discussed with the mother and a referral to a provider was made.
- Must have documentation of the screening tool used and date the screening was completed.
- Providers may give the mother a copy of the completed screening tool to take with her to referral appointments.

# THSteps: Comprehensive Unclothed Physical Examination

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- **Comprehensive must be unclothed**
- **Physical Examination**
  - Height or Length
  - Weight
  - BMI
  - Fronto-occipital circumference
  - Blood pressure
- **Sensory Screening**
  - Vision
  - Hearing

\*Use age-appropriate growth charts to identify significant deviation





# THSteps Immunizations - Medicaid

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- If immunizations are due, the provider must administer them as part of the THSteps medical checkup visit. Include documentation in the medical record of vaccine given. Or document why immunization was not given on that visit and state the plan of action for getting vaccine at a later date.
- Immunization schedule is set by Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP)
- Vaccines available through Texas Vaccine for Children Program (TVFC). Reimbursement covers administration fee.
- Use diagnosis code Z23 to indicate immunization administration
- [www.immunizetexas.org](http://www.immunizetexas.org) (DSHS site: info on vaccine schedules, catch-up schedule, ImmTrac2, TVFC program, etc)
- Report immunization data to [www.ImmTrac.com](http://www.ImmTrac.com) or call 1-800-348-9158

# THSteps: Laboratory Screening

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## THSteps Lab and Testing Supplies:

- All newly enrolled THSteps providers received a start up package with forms and supplies; included in the package are blood specimen collection supplies.
- All laboratory tests require as part of THSteps checkup must be submitted to the Department of State Health Services (DSHS) laboratory, with the exception of specimens related to screening for Type 2 diabetes and dyslipidemia.
  - Specimen for Type 2 diabetes and dyslipidemia may be sent to laboratory of provider's office choice, including DSHS Laboratory
- Laboratory tests cannot be billed as a separate claim on the same date of service as a medical checkup.

# THSteps: Laboratory Screening

## THSteps Lab and Testing Supplies:

- Both age-appropriate and risk-based laboratory tests are required as part of the Texas Health Steps preventive medical checkup.
- Risk-based laboratory tests is up to the provider’s discretion to request those test. Can be recommended due to family history, specific conditions, and weight.

Required Laboratory Tests	Checkup Ages
Newborn screening panel	Birth 2 Weeks
Blood Lead Screening	12 months 24 months
Anemia	12 months
Dyslipidemia (Lipid)	9 years 18 years
<b>HIV</b>	<b>16 years</b>

*Risk-based Laboratory Tests	Checkup Ages
Dyslipidemia (Lipid)	Any checkup beginning at 24 months
Type 2 diabetes	Any checkup beginning at 10 years
STD/STI	Any checkup beginning at 11 years
HIV	Any checkup beginning at 11 years

# THSteps: Health Education/ Anticipatory Guidance

- Health education and counseling, including age-appropriate anticipatory guidance, must be provided at each Texas Health Steps medical checkup. This component is an opportunity to strengthen providers' relationship with patients and their families.
- Health education helps parents and caregivers understand what to expect during their child's development and growth.
- Anticipatory guidance provide information on the benefits of healthy lifestyles, healthy practices, accident and disease prevention.

## Anticipatory Guidance Provider Guide Example 11-year-old check up

### Family Well-Being

- Keep a usual family routine
- Discuss with teacher any need for additional help or school concern
- Monitor computer use and ensure computer safety

### Keeping Child Safe

- Choose safe, quality after-school care
- Promote riding in the back seat until 12 or 13 years old
- Supervise when child is in or near water
- Develop family plan for existing house in a fire and establish meeting place after exit

### Healthy Feeding

- Provide nutritious meals and snacks each day
- Help child maintain healthy weight
- Limit sweets, soda, and high-fat foods
- Emphasize the importance of breakfast
- Encourage healthy eating behaviors

### Regular Care and Routine

- Reinforce 2 times/day teeth-brushing
- Encourage personal hygiene routine
- Encourage physical activity for 1 hr a day

### Healthy Progress/Development

- Promote self-responsibility
- Observe signs of depression, anxiety, or other behavior health issues
- Establish consistent limits, rules, and consequences
- Limit TV/screen time to 2 hrs a day
- Encourage constructive conflict resolution and demonstrate anger management at home

## THSteps: Dental Service

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THSteps dental services are benefits of Medicaid eligible children from birth through 20 years of age:

- Routine dental referral beginning at 6 months of age, until a dental home is established
- Oral health exam and preventive services. Additional free CE courses and training on Oral Evaluation and Fluoride Varnish available at [www.txhealthsteps.com](http://www.txhealthsteps.com)
- Referral for dental care at any age if oral exam identifies possible concerns



# **Summiting Claims for Texas Health Steps**

# Preventing Common Billing Issues

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Many of Texas Health Steps claims in 2021 were denied due to incorrect diagnosis code, and/or incorrect CPT codes that were not consistent with the patient's age.

Understanding why claims are denied may help prevent future claims from being denied.

## Preventing Denied Claims:

**Non-covered charge(s):** Medical services that are not a covered service with that patient's plan. This can also occur if an incorrect diagnosis code is used.

**The procedure/revenue code is inconsistent with the patient's age:** A claim denied because CPT code billed is not compatible with patient's age

**Claim/service lacks information which is needed for adjudication:** There is information that is missing in order to process the claim

**Duplicate:** Claims submitted for the same service for an individual on a specified date of service that was included in a previously submitted claim. Avoid this issue by indicating that the duplicate is a "corrected" claim.



# THSteps Complete Checkup - Billing

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- For you to be reimbursed for THSteps medical checkups, each of the six components and their individual elements must be completed and documented in the medical record.
- Any component or element not completed must be noted in the medical record, along with the reason it was not completed and the plan to complete the component or element.
- The medical record must contain documentation on all screening tools used for TB, growth and development, autism, and mental health screenings. The results of these screenings and any necessary referrals must be documented in the medical record.
- THSteps checkups are subject to retrospective review and recoupment if the medical record does not include all required documentation.
- A provider must bill for THSteps services in accordance with state standards.

# Texas Health Steps: Claim Submission

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All Texas Health Steps components performed during the medical checkup should be billed on the same claim form

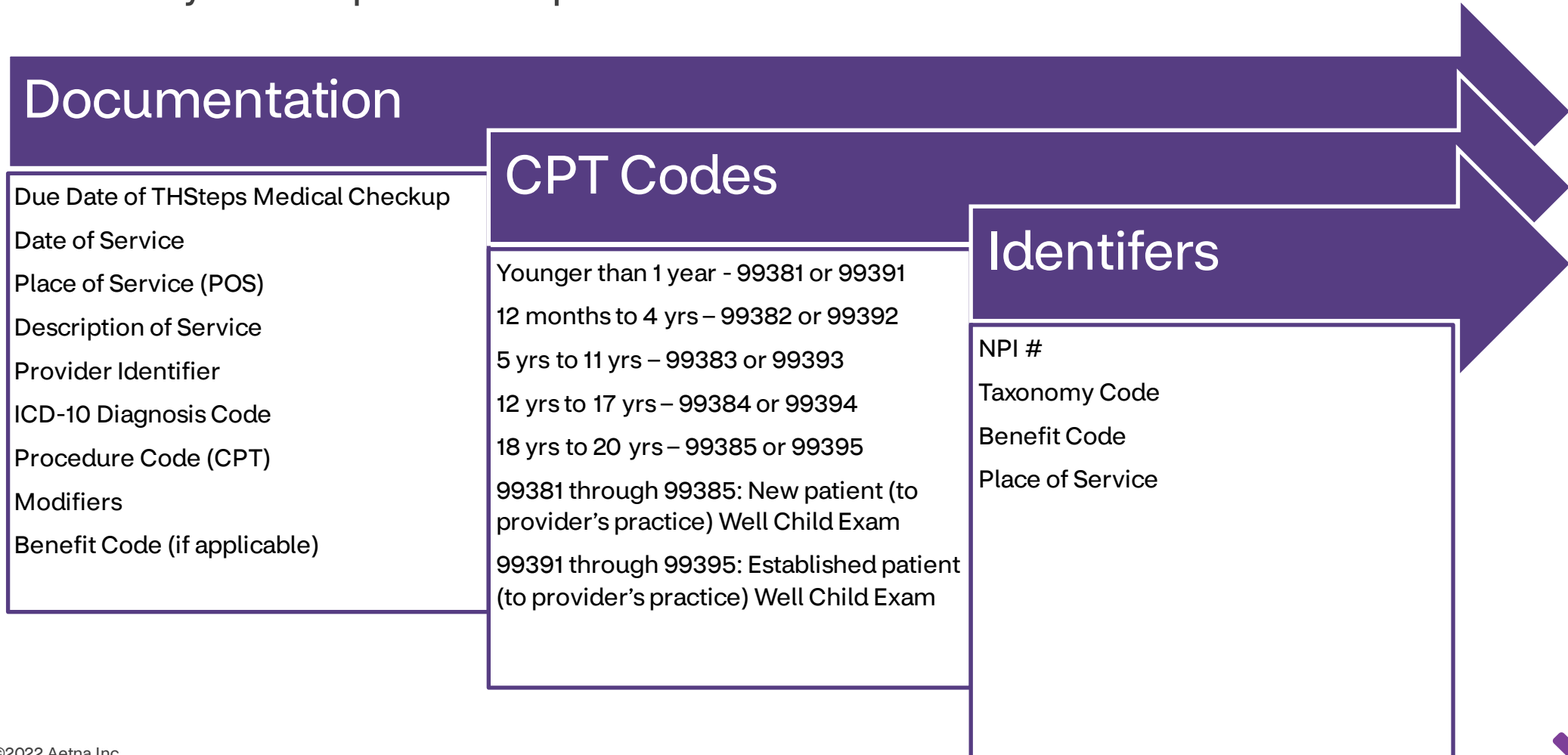
Submitting multiple claim forms for Texas Health Steps procedures may lead to overpayment and can result in audits and recoupments.

- Can look up THS fee schedule a TMHP <https://public.tmhp.com/FeeSchedules/Default.aspx>
- Providers should bill their usual and customary fee

Most Medicaid providers must submit claims to the Medicaid claims administrator within 95 days from the date of service or the claims will be denied for late filing.

# THSteps: Claims

A paid claim that shows a timely THSteps medical checkup is the best means of documenting that a timely checkup was completed.





# Texas Health Steps Documentation: Identifiers

**National Provider Identifier (NPI):** is unique identification number for covered health care providers.

**Taxonomy Code:** A unique code designed to classify health-care providers by provider type and specialty. ie. Family medicine, OBGYN, etc.

- Providers may have more than one taxonomy code. So important to use appropriate taxonomy for THSteps
- Providers must bill the NPI and Taxonomy code as attested for THSteps with Texas Medicaid

**Modifier:** used to supplement the information or adjust care descriptions to provide extra details concerning a procedure or service provided by a physician.

24a. Insured's Policy/Group No.		24b. Provider Benefit Code		25. Other Insurance Pd. Amt. \$		25a. Date of Notification	
26. Name of Referring Provider		27a. Referring Other ID		28. Level of Practitioner			
		27b. Referring NPI		<input type="checkbox"/> Physician <input type="checkbox"/> Nurse <input type="checkbox"/> Mid-Level <input type="checkbox"/> Other			
29. Diagnosis Code (Relate A-L to service line 32E)						ICD Ind.	30. Authorization Number
A. _____		B. _____		C. _____		D. _____	
E. _____		F. _____		G. _____		H. _____	
I. _____		J. _____		K. _____		L. _____	
32. A		B	C	D		E	F
G		H					
From		To	Place of Service	Type of Service	Procedures, Services, or Supplies CPT/HCPCS Modifier		Ex. Ref. (29)
MM DD CCYY   MM DD CCYY							Units or Days (Quantity)
							\$ Charges
							Performing Provider No.
1							Perf Prov Taxonomy
2							Perf Prov NPI
3							Perf Prov Taxonomy
4							Perf Prov NPI
5							Perf Prov Taxonomy
6							Perf Prov NPI
33. Federal Tax ID Number/EIN			34. Patient's Account No. (optional)			35. Patient Co-Pay Assessed \$	
36. Total Charges							
37. Signature of Physician or Supplier Date: Signed:				38. Name and Address of Facility Where Services Were Rendered (If Other Than Home or Office)		39. Physician's, Supplier's Billing Name, Address, ZIP + 4 Code & Phone No.	
				38a. NPI		38b. Other ID	

F00025

Revised Date: 07/18/2021 | Effective Date: 09/01/2021

**\*Claims submitted with incorrect, invalid or missing NPI and Taxonomy code combination will reject or deny**

# Texas Health Steps: Modifier and Identifier

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## Benefit Codes:

- THSteps Benefit Code **EP1**

## *Modifiers*

- *AM – Physician*
- *SA – Nurse Practitioner*
- *TD – Registered Nurse*
- *U7 – Physician Assistant*
- *25 – Required when immunization are billed with a THSteps visit*

## *Condition Indicator*

- *NU – Not used (no referral)*
- *ST – New Services requested*
- *S2 – Under Treatment*

# THSteps: Billing Codes/Claims

When submitting claims for Texas Health Steps medical checkups, age-appropriate CPT codes and diagnosis code for these checkups must be submitted on the claim. See age-appropriate CPT codes and Diagnosis Codes below:

Texas Health Steps Age-Appropriate CPT Codes		
CODE	PROCEDURE	AGES
99391	A baby (established patient) is visited by a provider for a well-baby visit (for babies younger than 1).	Under age 1
99381	A baby (new patient) is visited by a provider for a well-baby visit (for babies younger than 1).	Under age 1
99392	A child (existing patient) between 1 and 4 years old is visited by a provider for a well patient visit.	1-4 years of age
99382	A child (new patient) between 1 and 4 years old is visited by a provider for a well patient visit.	1-4 years of age
99393	A child (established patient) between 5 and 11 years old is visited by a provider for a well patient visit	5-11 years of age
99383	A child (new patient) between 5 and 11 years old is visited by a provider for a well patient visit	5-11 years of age
99394	An adolescent (established patient) between 12 and 17 years old is visited by a provider for a well patient visit.	12—17 years of age
99384	An adolescent (new patient) between 12 and 17 years old is visited by a provider for a well patient visit.	12—17 years of age
99395	A patient (established patient) between 18 and 20 years old is visited by a provider for a well patient visit.	18 years –20 years of age
99385	A patient (new patient) between 18 and 20 years old is visited by a provider for a well patient visit.	18 years –20 years of age

ICD-10 Diagnosis Code	
CODE	PROCEDURE
Z00.110	Routine newborn exam, birth through 7 days
Z00.111	Routine newborn exam, 8 days through 28 days
Z00.129	Routine child exam
Z00.121	Routine child exam, abnormal
Z00.00	General adult exam
Z00.01	General adult exam, abnormal

# THSteps: Billing Codes/Claims

When submitting claims for Texas Health Steps medical checkups, use appropriate CPT codes for Immunizations below:

Immunizations Administered			
Procedure Codes	Vaccine	Procedure Codes	Vaccine
90632 or 90633* with (90460 or 90471/90472)	Hep A	90707* with (90460 or 90471/90472)	MMR
90620* or 90621* with (90460 or 90471/90472)	MenB	90710* with (90460 or 90471/90472)	MMRV
90636 with (90460 or 90471/90472)	Hep A/ Hep B	90713* with (90460 or 90471/90472)	IPV
90644	Hib-MenCY	90714* with (90460 or 90471/90472)	Td
90647* or 90648* with (90460 or 90471/90472)	Hib	90715* with (90460 or 90471/90472)	Tdap
90650 or 90651* with (90460 or 90471/90472)	HPV	90716* with (90460 or 90471/90472)	Varicella
90630, 90654, 90655*, 90656*, 90657*, 90658*, 90685*, 90686*, 90687* or 90688* with (90460 or 90471/90472); 90660* or 90672* with (90460 or 90473/90474); 90661, 90673, 90674, 90682 or 90756* with (90471/90472)	Influenza	90723* with (90460 or 90471/90472)	Dtap-Hep B-IPV
90670* with (90460 or 90471/90472)	PCV13	90732* with (90460 or 90471/90472)	PPSV23
90680* or 90681* with (90460 or 90473/90474)	Rotavirus	90733 or 90734* with (90460 or 90471/90472)	MPSV4
90696* with (90460 or 90471/90472)	DTAP-IPV	90743, 90744*, or 90746 with (90460 or 90471/90472)	Hep B
90698* with (90460 or 90471/90472)	DTAP-IPV-Hib	90748* with (90460 or 90471/90472)	Hib-Hep B
90700* with (90460 or 90471/90472)	DTap	90758 with (90471/90472)	Ebola Virus
90702* with (90460 or 90471/90472)	DT		

\*Indicates a vaccine distributed by TVFC

# THSteps: Immunization Administration Code Example

VACCINE	INCLUDED ANTIGENS	WHAT TO BILL (W/ COUNSELING)	WHAT TO BILL (NO COUNSELING)
Rotavirus	•Rotavirus	• <b>90680</b> •90460	•90680 •90471 for first shot, use 90472 for additional shots during this visit
Comvax (HIB/Hep B Vaccine)	•Hib •Hepatitis B	• <b>90748</b> •90460 •90461	•90748 •90471 for first shot, use 90472 for additional shots during this visit
MMR	•Measles •Mumps •Rubella	• <b>90707</b> •90460 (for the first antigen, Measles) •90461 (x2, for the additional antigens)	•90707 •90471 for first shot, use 90472 for additional shots during this visit
FluMist	•Influenza	• <b>90672</b> •90460 (for the first antigen)	•90672 •90473 for first administration, 90474 for additional administrations during this visit

# **Texas Health Steps Summary & Resources**

# THSteps: Online Provider Education

## THSteps Provider Education:

- The THSteps Online Provider Education System offers tutorials and modules on various topics for health care providers at no cost
  - Located at: [www.txhealthsteps.com](http://www.txhealthsteps.com)
  - Offers FREE continuing education (CE) courses for primary care providers and other health professionals including PA, NP, Nurse, Social Worker, Pharmacist, Dentist

The screenshot shows the Texas Health Steps website homepage. At the top left is the Texas Health and Human Services logo. To its right is the text 'Texas Health Steps'. A navigation menu at the top right includes 'PROFESSION', 'COURSES', 'RESOURCES', 'PARTNERS', 'HELP', and 'DASHBOARD'. The main content area features a teal banner with the text 'Your how-to guides for Medicaid Texas Health Steps.' and a sub-headline 'Courses and resources from leading experts help you demystify Medicaid health-care delivery.' Below this is a yellow 'BROWSE' button. Underneath the banner is a row of six hexagonal icons representing different professions: Physician (blue), Nurse (red), Social Worker (green), Pharmacist (orange), Dentist (yellow), and General (teal). To the right of the banner is a grey sidebar with a 'WELCOME!' message, a 'MY ACCOUNT' dropdown menu, and a blue 'LOG OUT' button. Below this is a section titled 'TEXAS HEALTH STEPS CHECKUPS' with a video overview and a blue 'EXPLORE >' button. At the bottom of the sidebar is a section for 'CASE MANAGEMENT FOR CHILDREN AND PREGNANT WOMEN'.

## THSteps: Resources

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HHSC (TX Dept of Health & Human Services) offers brochures, posters and other outreach resources at no cost to providers, schools, community-based organizations (CBOs), Case Managers, and other THSteps partners. Materials cover a variety of topics, including:

- Medical Checkup, Dental Checkup
- Newborn Hearing Screening
- Medical Transportation Program
- Case Management for Children and Pregnant Women

Located at: <http://www.dshs.texas.gov/thsteps/THStepsCatalog.shtm>

### Other Helpful Resources:

Texas Health Steps: [www.hhs.texas.gov/providers/health-services-providers/texas-health-steps](http://www.hhs.texas.gov/providers/health-services-providers/texas-health-steps)

Texas Medicaid & Healthcare Partnership <https://www.tmhp.com> (link to TMHP Provider Procedures Manual: Children's Services handbook)

**Availity Provider Portal** to find specific information on your patients that are due for THSteps medical checkup



# Availability Features

## Access to Gaps In Care (GIC)

- You now have access to review members with GIC including needing prenatal and postpartum visits
- See Performance Rate with Aetna Better Health and Performance Benchmarks

**Business Intelligence Reports** Powered By Aetna Medicaid Business Intelligence  
 Home > Beta SSRS GIC TIN Level Report Report  
 Value Based Solutions | Gaps In Care

PCP [dropdown] Measure (for Member Care tab) AAB\_TOTAL, ABA, ADD\_CONTMAINT [dropdown]  
 Care Type (for Member Care tab) Provider Education, Had Care - No [dropdown]

1 of 2 Find | Next

**aetna** Gaps in Care - Provider Dashboard  
 Go to report tab [Provider Dashboard](#) [Member Care](#) [Member Print List](#) [Measure Descriptions](#)

Choose Benchmark: 50% 75% 90% 100%  
 MID PA  
 Data with Claims Through - 11/30/2020

MBR Measures	Denominator	Had Care	Needs Care	PCP Rate	Benchmark 50	Benchmark 75	Benchmark 90	Needed to Reach Benchmark
AAB_TOTAL	95	35	60	36.84 %	31.97 %	37.36 %	44.64 %	35
AAP_AGE2044	8	8	0	100.00 %	77.97 %	82.40 %	85.74 %	0
ABA	7	2	5	28.57 %	88.56 %	92.46 %	95.00 %	5
ADD CONTMAINT	3	1	2	33.33 %	57.09 %	63.72 %	69.14 %	2

Parameters Report  
 SFY: 2022 LOB: Tarrant STAR

1 of 2 Find | Next

**aetna** **FREW Timeliness** 4/6/2022 5:57:22 PM  
 The monthly FREW report is a detailed list of new and existing members assigned to your panel that need a Texas Health Steps (THSteps) medical checkup. New Members Visits within 90 days of enrollment and Existing 365 of Birthdate annually.

SFY: 9/1/2021-8/31/2022 Go to Report Tab --> [New Members](#) [Existing Members](#)  
[Health Screening Schedule Ages 1 - 10](#)  
[Health Screening Schedule Ages 11-20](#)

JENNIFER M HUDMAN MD	Tarrant STAR
NORTHWEST FAMILY PRACTICE	Tarrant STAR
TEXAS HEALTH PHYSICIANS GROUP	Tarrant STAR

## Access to Texas Health Steps Report

- Providers now have access to review new and existing patients in need of a Texas Health Steps.
- Date Texas Health Steps need to be completed
- Resources for Texas Health Checkup Periodicity Schedule for specific ages.

Existing Members	[Redacted]	[Redacted]	[Redacted]	03/29/2023	1	0	JENNIFER M HUDMAN MD	JENNIFER M HUDMAN MD	Tarrant STAR
Existing Members	[Redacted]	[Redacted]	[Redacted]	03/29/2023	1	0	JENNIFER M HUDMAN MD	JENNIFER M HUDMAN MD	Tarrant STAR
Existing Members	[Redacted]	[Redacted]	[Redacted]	04/16/2023	1	0	JENNIFER M HUDMAN MD	JENNIFER M HUDMAN MD	Tarrant STAR
Existing Members	[Redacted]	[Redacted]	[Redacted]	05/03/2023	1	0	JENNIFER M HUDMAN MD	JENNIFER M HUDMAN MD	Tarrant STAR

# Provider Best Practices for Texas Health Steps

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**Follow Periodicity Schedule:** Each age interval serves as a key checkup for a child with specific screening needs.

**Provide Extended Office Hours:** Offering additional appointment times helps parents and caregivers get preventive wellness checkups outside of normal office hours.

**Combine a Well-Care Visit with Other Visits:** Combine other visits to complete a well-child visit, such as Sports Physical and sick visit.

**Expand Tools for EMR/EHR System:**

- A THSteps template that follows THSteps Periodicity Schedule and State THS forms. This template helps facilitate charting efficiency, improve member outcomes, and reimbursement for completed services.

**Incorporate Outreach:**

- Timely patient outreach (calls and/or texts) for well child visits from the provider's staff help get annual well visits scheduled and performed.
- Tools in EMR system can help manage and schedule patient visits or prompts SMS or reminder calls to patients of upcoming appointments.



# Contact Information

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You can reach out to your Provider Relations network consultant with the contact information below.

Medicaid STAR	CHIP	Medicaid STAR Kids
Bexar: 1-800-248-7767	Bexar: 1-866-818-0959	Tarrant: 1-844-STRKIDS or 1-844-787-5437
Tarrant: 1-800-306-8612	Tarrant: 1-800-245-5380	

Our Provider hotline is available Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Central time, excluding State-approved holidays.

Providers also have 24/7/365 by utilizing self-service tools such as our interactive voice response (IVR) system and provider portal for eligibility and benefit questions.

