

Developmental Screening - First Three Years of Life

Medicaid/CHIP NCQA – Core Set of Children’s Health Care
Quality Measure Provider Tip Sheet



Superior HealthPlan would like to share best practices, codes, and more resources for the Developmental Screening in the First Three Years of Life (DEV-CH) measure.

Measure Description

The percentage of children screened for risk of developmental, behavioral, and social delays using a standardized screening tool in the 12 months preceding or on their first, second, or third birthday.

Note: DEV-CH data can only be collected through claims and encounters. It is important that you ensure you have coded all your claims and encounters for your patients’ visits to the highest level of specificity.

Criteria

Children turning 1, 2, or 3 years of age between January 1 to December 31 of the measurement year who had a screening for risk of developmental, behavioral, and social delays using a standardized screening tool that was documented in the patient chart.

- Children turning 1 year during the measurement year who had a screening documented by the child’s first birthday (birth to 1 year).
- Children turning 2 years during the measurement year who had a screening documented by the child’s second birthday (>1 to 2 years).
- Children turning 3 years during the measurement year who had a screening documented by the child’s third birthday (>2 to 3 years).
- Total rate: Children turning 1, 2 or 3 years during the measurement year who had a screening documented by their first, second or third birthday.

Clinical Recommendations

The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) recommends developmental and behavioral screenings for all children during regular well-child visits. Texas Health Steps (THS) Medical Checkup periodicity schedule recommends 9 months, 18 months, 24 months 3 years old and 4 years old.

Note: Completion of Developmental Screening does not fulfill Texas Health Steps mandatory components related to developmental surveillance. Review of Milestones should be a component of every THS checkup. In addition, the AAP recommends that all children be screened specifically for the autism spectrum disorder (ASD) during regular well-child visits at 18 months and 24 months.

Acceptable standardized screening tools

Standardized developmental screening tools should be used to comply with the DEV-CH measure.

Examples of standardized screening tools that meet the measure criteria include:

- Ages and Stages Questionnaire – 3rd Edition (ASQ-3).
- Parents’ Evaluation of Developmental Status (PEDS) – Birth to 8 years.
- Parent’s Evaluation of Developmental Status – Developmental Milestones (PEDS-DM).
- Survey of Well-Being in Young Children (SWYC)

Medical Record documentation

Documentation of a face-to-face visit between the provider and the member, predating the member’s birthday by at least 12 months.

Note: Documentation of a standardized developmental screening tool is required, with evidence indicating the tool was completed and scored on the date of screening.

CPT Codes

Description	CPT Code
Developmental Screening	96110

Resources

- [Children's Health Care Quality Measures](#) webpage
- [Texas Health Steps – Checkup Components](#) webpage
- [Texas Health Steps Medical Checkup Periodicity Schedule for Infants, Children, and Adolescents \(PDF\)](#)
- [Texas Health Steps Quick Reference Guide \(PDF\)](#)