

Quality Provider Program: Primary Care Immunizations — Adolescence: Frequently Asked Questions

Q: Why does this measure matter?

A: On-time vaccination throughout childhood is essential because it helps provide immunity before children are exposed to potentially life-threatening diseases.

Q: What is Select Health doing to help?

A: Select Health Quality Provider Program provides an up-to-date registry of Select Health patients included in this measure with their compliance status. Filter patient lists to identify those who will need to be immunized soon.

Q: What are best practices for this measure?

A: Best practices include:

- Using the Select Health Quality Provider Program gaps report or clinic electronic medical record gaps to identify patients who need immunizations
- Submitting undocumented immunizations in the applicable state's tool before using Select Health's Quality Data Corrections (QDC) Tool
- Including all recommended vaccinations at every visit and:
 - Asking open-ended questions if you encounter hesitancy. Questions, such as, "What concerns do you have?," allow for better dialogue between patient and provider.
 - Educating parent(s) if vaccine refusal occurs. Stress the associated risk, and continue the conversation at the next most-appropriate time.
 - Making the next dose follow-up appointment prior to patient leaving the office.
- Using human papillomavirus (HPV) best practices, including:
 - Offering initial dose at 9- or 10-year well-child check or in conjunction with Tdap at age 11–12 years
 - Emphasizing HPV for cancer prevention

- Enhancing practice workflow by:
 - Educating all staff (from front desk to providers) to consistently encourage vaccination and appropriate timing requirements
 - Providing standing orders for immunization, and creating provider prompts in electronic health records for when immunizations are due
 - Implementing a reminder system to inform patients about upcoming recommended immunizations as well as encouraging those who are overdue for immunizations to return to the office
- Monitoring progress toward goals, adjusting the process when needed by:
 - Establishing a baseline immunization rate and setting an ambitious goal
 - Discussing how your process is working during staff meetings
 - Making process adjustments as needed to ensure success

Resources:

Bernstein HH, Bocchini JA, AAP Committee on Infectious Diseases. Practical approaches to optimize adolescent immunization. *Pediatrics*. 2017;139(3):e20164187.

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Immunization Action Coalition. *Suggestions to Improve Your Immunization Services*. May 2017. <https://www.immunize.org/catg.d/p2045.pdf>. Accessed December 28, 2022.

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. *Vaccines for your Children*. CDC.gov. Last Reviewed March 18, 2019. <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/parents/by-age/index.html>. Accessed December 28, 2022.

American Academy of Pediatrics. *Why Immunize Your Child*. AAP.org. March 29, 2022. <https://www.healthychildren.org/English/safety-prevention/immunizations/Pages/Why-Immunize-Your-Child.aspx>. Accessed December 28, 2022.



Questions about the Quality Provider Program?
Contact us at QualityProvider@selecthealth.org.