

Texas Health Steps Checkup Requirements

Information posted Dec. 5, 2017

This is a reminder to Texas Health Steps providers of the importance of documenting the complete Texas Health Steps checkup. Each of the six checkup components and their individual elements must be completed at the time of the checkup and documented in the medical record. **Two critical checkup components to be emphasized are the requirement to provide vaccines and complete laboratory screening according to the periodicity schedule and laboratory submission requirements, both at the time of the checkup.**

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 of any screening tools used during the Texas Health Steps checkup. Texas Health Steps checkups are subject to retrospective review and recoupment if the medical record does not include all required documentation.

Texas Health Steps checkup components are outlined in the Texas Health Steps Medical Checkups Periodicity Schedule, which is found on the Texas Health Steps website at www.dshs.texas.gov/thsteps/providers.shtm. Details on each component are listed in the current *Texas Medicaid Provider Procedures Manual, Children's Services Handbook*, section 5.3.11, "Mandated Components."

Texas Health Steps checkup components include:

1. **Comprehensive health and developmental history**, which includes nutrition screening, developmental and mental health screening and tuberculosis screening.
2. **Comprehensive unclothed physical examination**, which includes measurements (height or length), weight, fronto-occipital circumference, body mass index, blood pressure and vision and hearing screening.
3. **Immunizations**, as established by the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices, according to age and health history, including influenza, pneumococcal and human papillomavirus.
4. **Laboratory tests**, as appropriate, which include newborn screening, blood lead level assessment appropriate for age and risk factors and anemia.
5. **Health education** including anticipatory guidance.
6. **Dental referral**, starting at six months of age and at every checkup thereafter until the parent or caregiver reports a dental home is established.

For more information, call the TMHP Contact Center at 1-800-925-9126.