

# HEDIS WCC Measure

**Weight Assessment and Counseling for Nutrition  
and Physical Activity for Children/Adolescents**



# Coding disclaimer

- The information in this presentation does not guarantee reimbursement, benefit coverage or payment for services.
- Coding guidance in this presentation is not intended to replace official coding guidelines or professional coding expertise.
- Providers are required to ensure documentation supports all codes submitted for conditions and services.
- If you have questions regarding claims billed and reimbursement, call Provider Customer Services at **844-781-2343**.

# Agenda

- **Part one:** Weight Assessment and Counseling for Nutrition and Physical Activity for Children/Adolescents (WCC)
- **Parttwo:** Billing and coding guidance
- **Conclusion:** Resources



# Part one

## Weight Assessment and Counseling for Nutrition and Physical Activity (WCC)

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# Preventive services

- Members may self-refer.
- Members receive preventive services (for example, well-child exams, immunizations, vision/hearing screenings).
- Medicaid members 20 years old and younger must have a well-child visit within 90 days of enrollment.
- For CHIP, the well-child visits provided in accordance with the American Academy of Pediatrics periodicity schedule. For Medicaid, well-child visits use the Texas Health Steps periodicity schedule.
- Vaccine serum is available through the Texas Vaccines for Children program.

# Weight Assessment and Counseling for Nutrition and Physical Activity for Children/Adolescents (WCC)

## Focus group

- Members ages 3 to 17 who had an outpatient visit with a PCP or OB/GYN in the measurement year

## Service

- Evidence of body mass index (BMI) percentile, physical activity and nutritional counseling from any provider type in any setting

## Frequency

- Yearly

## Exclusions

- Members in hospice or using hospice services anytime during the measurement year

# WCC documentation

### Any provider type in any setting

#### BMI Percentile:

- Document height, weight and BMI percentile. BMI percentile can be plotted on a growth chart or documented as a value (for example, 85th percentile)

#### Counseling for nutrition or refer member for nutrition education:

- Discuss current nutrition behaviors (for example, eating habits, dieting behaviors)
- Weight or obesity counseling
- Anticipatory guidance for nutrition

#### Counseling or referral for physical activity:

- Discuss current physical activity behaviors (for example, exercise routine, participation in team sports or recreational play with notation of frequency)
- Weight or obesity counseling
- Anticipatory guidance specific to physical activity

# Helpful tips for BMI percentiles

- A distinct BMI percentile is required.
- Ranges and thresholds do not meet compliance for this measure.
- Documentation of > 99% or < 1% meet criteria because a distinct BMI percentile is evident (in other words, 100% or 0%).
- Place BMI percentile charts near scales.
- Add BMI percentile calculation into electronic medical record (EMR) system.
- Member-reported biometric values (height and weight, BMI percentile) are eligible for use in reporting this measure. The information must be recorded, dated and maintained in the member's legal health record.

### Examples that do not represent BMI percentile information:

- Weight-for-age percentiles
- Stature-for-age percentiles
- Weight-for-stature percentiles
- Stature-for-age and weight-for-age percentiles



# Helpful tips for nutrition

- Documentation of current nutrition behaviors (eating habits or dietary behaviors) may be used to meet criteria.
- Use of a checklist indicating nutrition was addressed may be used to meet criteria.
- Counseling or referral for nutrition education may be used to meet criteria.
- Member received educational materials on nutrition during a face-to-face visit may be used to meet criteria.
- Documentation of anticipatory guidance for nutrition may be used to meet criteria.
- Weight or obesity counseling including services rendered for eating disorders (counts for both Nutrition and Physical Activity).
- The 5210 Program for Nutrition and Fitness Handout (counts for both Nutrition and Physical Activity).
- Referral to the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC) may be used to meet criteria.
- The Counseling for Nutrition indicator does not require a specific setting. Therefore, services rendered during a telephone visit, e-visit or virtual check-in meet criteria.

# Helpful tips for physical activity

- Discussion of current physical activity behaviors (exercise routine, participation in sports activities, exam for sports participation) meets compliance.
- Checklist indicating physical activity was addressed meets compliance.
- Counseling or referral for physical activity meets compliance.
- Documentation that member received educational materials on physical activity during a face-to-face visit meets compliance.
- Documentation of anticipatory guidance for the child's physical activity meets compliance.
- Weight or obesity counseling including services rendered for eating disorders (counts for both Nutrition and Physical Activity).
- The 5210 Program for Nutrition and Fitness Handout (counts for both Nutrition and Physical Activity).
- The Counseling for Physical Activity indicator does not require a specific setting. Therefore, services rendered during a telephone visit, e-visit or virtual check-in meet criteria.

# Examples of counseling for nutrition

What works	What doesn't work
Notes on meal patterns	Switched to solid foods
Junk food intake	Documentation related to a member's appetite does not meet criteria: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Good appetite without any reference to what the child is eating.</li><li>• Appetite normal without any reference to what the child is eating.</li></ul>
Balanced diet	BRAT diet
Cheese, yogurt (increase calcium)	Well-nourished
Education on fat in diet	Increase fiber due to constipation
Fruits and vegetables	Anticipatory guidance checked but not specifically for nutrition
Anticipatory guidance checked off for nutrition	No decreased appetite, diarrhea or vomiting

# Examples of counseling for physical activity

What works	What doesn't work
Notes on sports, recreational activity and outdoorplay	Developmental milestones: able to ride a bike, climb stairs, hopping, skipping, etc.
Sports physicals	Cleared for sports
Encourage physical play (for a 3-year-old)	Notation solely related to screen time without specific mention of physical activity (for example, limit TV or computer)
Dance practice, cheerleading	Anticipatory guidance checked off but not specifically for physical activity
Encourage active lifestyle	Treatment for a sports-related injury but unable to determine if it was a one-time activity, (for example, jammed finger playing football)
Anticipatory guidance checked off for physical activity	Notation of anticipatory guidance related solely to safety (wears helmet or water safety) without specific mention of physical activity

# WCC documentation tips

- Provide education materials on nutrition and physical activity:
  - Educational materials/handouts given need to be in the medical record and a note that the handouts were for nutrition and physical activity.
- Services may be rendered during a visit other than a well-child visit. These services count if the specified documentation is present, regardless of the primary intent of the visit; however, services specific to the assessment or treatment of an acute or chronic condition do not count toward the counseling for nutrition and counseling for physical activity indicators.
- For example, the following documentation is specific to the assessment or treatment of an acute or chronic condition and does not meet criteria:
  - Notation that a member with chronic knee pain can run without limping.
  - Notation that a member has exercise-induced asthma.
  - Notation that a member with diarrhea is following the BRAT diet.
  - Notation that a member has decreased appetite as a result of an acute or chronic condition.

### WCC documentation tips (cont.)

#### Office visit example:

An 8-year-old member presents to the office with ankle pain after a fall during a soccer game. Vital signs noted:

- Weight: 100 lbs.
- Height: 4'4
- BMI: 25.9; 95th percentile
- Respiratory rate: 18
- Heart rate: 85
- Blood pressure: 110/65
- O<sup>2</sup> saturation: 99% on room air

The physician performs a review of systems and physical exam that reveals the patient has an ankle sprain and directs the parent to use the RICE method and ibuprofen (as needed) for the sprain. During the exam, the provider also noted that the patient is overweight and instructs the parent to: **limit sugary drinks** and have the child **participate in at least one hour of exercise several times a week** (once the ankle is healed).

# WCC measure codes

Diagnosis description			ICD-10-CM
BMI pediatric, less than 5th percentile for age			Z68.51
BMI pediatric, 5th percentile to 85th percentile for age			Z68.52
BMI pediatric, 85th percentile to less than 95th percentile for age			Z68.53
BMI pediatric, greater than or equal to 95th percentile for age			Z68.54
Services	CPT®	HCPCS	ICD-10-CM
Counseling for nutrition	97802-97804	G0270, G0271, G0447, S9449, S9452, S9470	Z71.3
Counseling for physical activity		G0447, S9451	Z02.5, Z71.82

This is for informational purposes only and it is not a guarantee of reimbursement. Refer to Dell Children's Health Plan billing guides for allowable codes.

# Part two

## Billing and coding guidance

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# Billing and coding guidance for ICD-10-CM

- ICD-10-CM codes from the Z00 to Z02 categories represent encounters for examinations:
  - Use additional diagnosis codes to report abnormal findings, coexisting conditions and chronic conditions (as supported by medical record documentation).

Code category	Description
Z00.00 to Z00.01	Encounter for general adult medical examination (18 years or older)
Z00.110 to Z00.111	Encounter for newborn health examinations (0 to 28 days)
Z00.121 to Z00.129	Encounter for routine child health examination (29 days to 17 years)
Z02.0 to Z02.6	Encounter for administrative examination (for example, sports physicals)

# Billing and coding guidance for preventive evaluation and management

- CPT preventive medicine evaluation and management (E&M) codes for the pediatric and adolescent population are 99381 to 99395.
- E&M codes should be by patient type (new or established) and age.
- Use additional diagnosis codes to report abnormal findings, coexisting and chronic conditions (as supported by medical record).

Code category	Description
99382 or 99392	New or established patient—early childhood (1 to 4 years old)
99383 or 99393	New or established patient—late childhood(5 to 11 years old)
99384 or 99394	New or established patient—adolescent (12 to 17 years old)
99385 or 99395	New or established patient—adult (18 to 39 years old)

## Modifier 25

### Modifier 25 coding guidance:

- Append modifier 25 to the preventive E&M code (99381 to 99395) when reported with immunization administration codes (90460 to 90461 and 90471 to 90474).
- When there is a preventive and a sick visit on the same day, append modifier 25 to sick visit CPT code with the appropriate diagnosis code. The sick visit must be documented to indicate the E&M is significant and separately identifiable.
- National Correct Coding Initiative (NCCI) edits do not allow providers to bill 99211 with any vaccine administration codes regardless of whether the 25 modifier is appended.

# Billing and coding guidance for WCC

### Examples of office visits:

Example of proper coding			
Example	Services	Diagnosis code	Visit code
1	Counseling for nutrition	Z71.3, Z68.53,E66.3	99394, 97802
2	Counseling for physical activity	Z71.82, Z68.54	G0447
3	Established patient visit	Z00.121, Z68.52	99394

# Resources

- For Medicaid, *Texas Health Steps Periodicity Schedule*:  
[hhs.texas.gov/providers/health-services-providers/texas-health-steps/medical-providers](https://hhs.texas.gov/providers/health-services-providers/texas-health-steps/medical-providers)
- For CHIP, American Academy of Pediatrics, *Recommendations for Preventive Pediatric Health Care Periodicity schedule*, Retrieved 2021, October 27: [https://downloads.aap.org/AAP/PDF/periodicity\\_schedule.pdf](https://downloads.aap.org/AAP/PDF/periodicity_schedule.pdf)
- American Medical Association. *Current Procedural Terminology CPT 2021*
- NCQA HEDIS® Measures:  
<https://www.ncqa.org/hedis/measures/weight-assessment-and-counseling-for-nutrition-and-physical-activity-for-children-adolescents/>
- *2021 ICD-10-CM Expert for Physicians*

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# Thank you!

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