

Texas Health Steps (THSteps)

Provider Training



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HEALTH PLAN
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RIGHTCARE



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TEXAS
Health and Human
Services

THSteps– Training Covers

- Objective
- What is THSteps
- THSteps Medical
 - Scheduling
 - Checkup Components
 - Laboratory
 - Special Circumstances
 - Documentation and Billing
- THSteps Dental
- Related Programs and Resources

Texas Health Steps – Training Objective

Objective:

Assist providers in having a basic understanding of Texas Health Steps (THSteps) checkups and the claims process.

Who will benefit from this training?

- Physicians/Providers
- Office Managers
- Coding and Billing Staff
- Nurses



What is THSteps?

What is THSteps?

- THSteps, formerly known as Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnosis and Treatment, is a program for children from birth through 20 years of age who are enrolled in Medicaid.
- THSteps provides regular medical and dental checkups and case management services to babies, children, teens, and young adults at no cost.

What are THSteps services?

- Periodic preventive care medical checkups (THSteps medical checkups)
- Dental checkups and treatment
- Comprehensive Care Program (CCP) including Private Duty Nursing (PDN)

Statutory Requirements

- Communicable Disease Reporting
- Early Childhood Intervention (ECI) referrals
- Parental Accompaniment
- Newborn Blood Screen
- Newborn Hearing Screen
- Critical Congenital Heart Disease (CCHD) Screen
- Blood Lead Level Screen
- Abuse and Neglect Reporting

[Texas Medicaid Provider Procedures Manual](#) (TMPPM)

Children's Services Handbook

5.1.2: THSteps Statutory State Requirements

THSteps Medical Checkups



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Providers

Selecting a Provider:

- Checkups – In fee-for-service (FFS) Medicaid, clients have freedom of choice when choosing a THSteps checkup provider. In managed care, a client needs to contact their health plan to determine how to access THSteps checkup providers.
- Treatment (if non-Primary Care Physician(PCP)) – Referral may be required through PCP for evaluation and/or management of conditions identified during a THSteps medical checkup.

THSteps Eligible Providers:

- Physician (MD/DO) currently licensed in the state where the service is provided
- Health Care Provider or Facility (public or private) capable of performing the required medical checkup procedures under a physician's direction
- Physician Assistants
- Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (APRN) recognized by the Texas Board of Nursing (BON) and nationally certified in at least one of the following:
 - Pediatrics
 - Family practice
 - Adult health (adolescents only)
 - Women's health (adolescent females only)
- Certified Nurse Midwife (CNM) enrolled as a provider of THSteps medical checkups for newborns younger than 2 months of age and adolescent females
- Rural Health Clinics and Federally Qualified Health Centers
- Dental Providers

Compliance with Federal Legislation

- HHSC complies with Health & Human Services (HHS) regulations that protect against discrimination.
- All contractors must agree to comply with the following:
 - **Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964** (Public Law 88-352), Section 504 of the *Rehabilitation Act of 1973* (Public Law 93-112), *The Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990* (Public Law 101-336), Title 40, Chapter 7 of the TAC
 - **Health and Safety Code 85.113** as described in “Model Workplace Guidelines for Businesses, State Agencies, and State Contractors” on page G-2

THSteps Checkup Scheduling

New Medicaid Clients:

- For Managed Care: Should receive a THSteps checkup within 90 days of enrollment in RightCare.
- Allowance to 90-day requirement can be made if the provider has documentation of a previous checkup and child is current/not due for a checkup.
- Checkups should be scheduled based on the ages indicated on the THSteps Medical Checkup Periodicity Schedule. [Publication E03-13634]

Checkup Timeliness for Managed Care

New Members

- Newborns within 14 days of enrollment.
- No later than within 90 days of enrollment for all other eligible children.

Existing Members

- For children under age 36 months, a checkup is defined as timely if received within 60 days beyond the periodic due date based on their birth date.
- For children 36 months and older, a checkup is defined as timely if it occurs within 364 calendar days after the child's birthday in a non-leap year or 365 calendar days after the child's birthday in a leap year.
- Checkups received before the periodic due date are not reportable as timely medical checkups.

Checkup Timeliness for Managed Care

Children less than 12 months of age

- Checkups in this age group occur within two weeks of due date based on child's date of birth

Children 12 months of age or older

- Should have a yearly checkup as soon as they become due
- May be completed anytime after their birthday (timely)
- Will not be considered late unless the child does not have the checkup prior to their next birthday

THSteps Checkup Scheduling

Age Range Allowed	Number of Checkups
Birth through 11 months <i>(Does not include the newborn or 12 months)</i>	6
1 through 4 years of age	7
5 through 11 years of age	7
12 through 17 years of age	6
18 through 20 years of age	3

THSteps Medical Required Components



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THSteps Medical Checkup Periodicity Schedule

THSteps Medical Checkup Periodicity Schedule for Infants, Children, and Adolescents

		COMPREHENSIVE HEALTH SCREENING* BIRTH THROUGH 10 YEARS OF AGE																											
		DEVELOPMENTAL SURVEILLANCE					MEASUREMENTS					VISION		HEARING		LABORATORY TESTS					Health Education/Anticipatory Guidance								
		History	Nutritional Screening	Review of Milestones	ASQ, ASQ:SE, or PEDS	M-CHAT or M-CHAT-R/F™	Mental Health, Psychosocial/Behavioral Health Screening	TB Questionnaire with Skin Test if Risk Identified	Unclothed Physical Examination	Critical Congenital Heart Defect Screening	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 ACP Guidelines	Newborn Screening Panel	Blood Lead Screening	Anemia	Dyslipidemia	Type 2 Diabetes	Health Education/Anticipatory Guidance
AGE																													
Months	Newborn	█	█	█			█	█	█		█											█	█	█				█	
	D/C to 5 days	█	█	█			█	█	█		█											█	█	█				█	
	2 weeks																												
	4																												
	6																												
	9																												
	12																												
	15																												
	18																												
	24																												
Years	30																												
	3																												
	4																												
	5																												
	6																												
	7																												
	8																												
	9																												
	10																												

LEGEND OF SYMBOLS

- █ Mandatory at this age.
- █ If a component is not completed at the required age, it is mandatory for the provider to complete at the first opportunity if age-appropriate.
- █ When symbols appear at the same age for developmental, mental health, vision, or hearing screening, perform the most appropriate-level screen.
- █ Risk-based.

Note: THSteps components may be performed at other ages if medically necessary. Check regularly for updates to this schedule: www.dshs.state.tx.us/thsteps/providers_components.shtml. For free online provider education: txhealthsteps.com.

THSteps Medical Checkup Periodicity Schedule

THSteps Medical Checkup Periodicity Schedule for Infants, Children, and Adolescents

COMPREHENSIVE HEALTH SCREENING * 11 THROUGH 20 YEARS OF AGE

* 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.tmhsp.com/Pages/Medicaid/Medicaid_Publications_Provider_manual.aspx. Find current Periodicity Schedule online at <http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/thsteps/providers.shtm>.

AGE	History	Nutritional Screening	Mental Health: Psychosocial/ Behavioral Health Screening	PSC-1.7, PSC-35, Y-PSC, PHQ-9, or CRAFFT	TB Questionnaire with Skin Test, if Risk Identified	Unclothed Physical Examination	MEASUREMENTS				VISION		HEARING		Dental Referral	Screen/Administer Immunizations According to ACP Guidelines	LABORATORY TESTS				Health Education/Anticipatory Guidance	
							Height	Weight	BMI	Blood Pressure	Visual Acuity	Subjective Vision	Audiometric Screening	Subjective Hearing			Dyslipidemia	Type 2 Diabetes	STD/STI Screening	HIV Test		
11	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█
12	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█
13	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█
14	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█
15	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█
16	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█
17	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█
18	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█
19	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█
20	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█

LEGEND OF SYMBOLS	
█	Mandatory at this age.
█	If a component is not completed at the required age, it is mandatory for the provider to complete at the first opportunity if age-appropriate.
█	When symbols appear at the same age for developmental, mental health, vision, or hearing screening, perform the most appropriate-level screen.
█	Risk-based.

Note: THSteps components may be performed at other ages if medically necessary. Check regularly for updates to this schedule: www.dshs.state.tx.us/thsteps/providers_components.shtm. For free online provider education: txhealthsteps.com.

Complete THSteps Checkup

Complete only if it includes:

- All required components, or
- documentation of why a particular component could not be completed.

Previous results may be used to meet the checkup requirements if completed within:

- Preceding 30 days for children who are two years of age and younger.
- Preceding 90 days for children who are three years of age and older.

Comprehensive Health History

- Nutritional Screening
- Developmental Surveillance and Screening
- Mental Health Screening
- Tuberculin Skin Test (TST)

Nutritional Screening

- Review of Measurements/BMI and Laboratory Screening
- Infants: Feeding Schedules
- Children and Adolescents: Dietary Practices
- Special Diets/Food Allergies
- Restaurant/Fast Food

Developmental Surveillance and Screening

Review of Milestones

Subjective review of milestones by parent report and observation.

Screening

- Objective screening using a standardized screening tool (CPT code 96110)
- Standardized autism screening (CPT code 96110 U6)
- Required at specific checkups

Developmental Surveillance and Screening

Screening Age	Developmental Tool	Autism Tool
9 months	Ages and Stages Questionnaire (ASQ) or Parent's Evaluation of Developmental Status (PEDS)	
18 months	ASQ or PEDS	Modified Checklist for Autism in Toddlers (M-CHAT™ or M-CHAT-R/F™)
24 months	ASQ or PEDS	Modified Checklist for Autism in Toddlers (M-CHAT™ or M-CHAT-R/F™)
3 years	ASQ or ASQ:SE, or PEDS	
4 years	ASQ or ASQ:SE, or PEDS	

Developmental Surveillance and Screening

The provider must complete a standardized developmental or autism screening:

- If missed at an earlier checkup and still age appropriate.
- For new patients 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.

Developmental Surveillance and Screening

Referrals - If delay 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.

Mental Health Screening

Mental Health Screening for

- Behavioral
- Social
- Emotional Development

Required at each visit.

Mental Health Screening Adolescent Requirement

Required once per lifetime between the ages of 12 through 18 years, using one of the five validated and standardized mental health screening tools.

(Use procedure code 96160 or 96161)

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

Mental Health Screening Adolescent Requirement

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

Download forms from the Bright Futures Materials & Tools page at:
<https://brightfutures.aap.org/materials-and-tools/tool-and-resource-kit/Pages/Developmental-Behavioral-Psychosocial-Screening-and-Assessment-Forms.aspx>

Tuberculin Screening

Positive TST:

- Further evaluation is required to diagnose either latent TB infection or active TB disease.
- Report a diagnosis of latent TB infection or suspected TB disease to your local or regional health department.

Contact the TB Services Branch at 512-533-3000 for more information.

Tuberculin 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

Administer a Tuberculin Skin Test (TST)

(CPT code 86580) if risk for possible exposure is identified.

A follow-up visit (CPT code 99211) is required to read all TSTs.

Physical Examination

- Comprehensive
- Must be unclothed
- Completed by:
 - Physician
 - PA (Physician Assistant)
 - CNS (Clinical Nurse Specialist)
 - NP (Nurse Practitioner)
 - CNM (Certified Nurse-Midwife)
 - RN (Registered Nurse)
 - Under direct supervision of physician
 - [Completion of online education modules](#)
 - May not provide checkups at an FQHC or RHC

Physical Examination

- Height or Length
- Weight
- BMI
- Fronto-occipital circumference
- Blood pressure

Use age-appropriate growth graph to identify significant deviations.

***RightCare covers sports physicals as a value-added service.**

If a sports physical is requested and the child is due for a Texas Health Steps checkup, the checkup including all the required Texas Health Steps components should be completed as well.

Providers may be reimbursed for sports physicals performed at the same time as a Texas Health Steps checkup or during a separate medical visit.*

Physical Examination

Sensory Screening

Vision

- Visual acuity screening according to the *THSteps Medical Checkup Periodicity Schedule*.
- Subjective screening at all other checkups.

Hearing

- Audiometric screening according to the *THSteps Medical Checkup Periodicity Schedule*.
- Subjective screening at all other checkups.

Dental Referral

An oral health exam and dental referral is a key part of the THSteps checkup.

A referral depends on the result of the oral exam:

- **Routine dental referral** - Beginning at 6 months of age until a dental home has been established.
- **Referral for dental care** - At any age if the oral exam identifies a possible concern.
- **Emergency dental referral** - If a child has bleeding, infection, excessive pain, or injury, refer directly to the dental provider.

Immunizations

Each medical checkup:

- Assess immunization status
- Use diagnosis code Z23 to indicate immunization administration
- Administer according to the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) recommendations unless-
 - Medically contraindicated, or
 - Parent's reason of conscience (including religious beliefs)

Providers **must not** refer children to the local health department or other entity for immunizations.

Immunizations

THSteps ages birth through 18:


- Vaccine available through TVFC.
- Reimbursement covers administration fee.

THSteps ages 19 and 20:

- Privately purchased vaccine.
- Reimbursed by Medicaid.
- Reimbursement covers vaccine and administration fee.

Laboratory Services

G-THSTEPS (September 2016) Specimen submission form for THSteps only

 TEXAS Department of State Health Services Specimen Acquisition: (512) 776-7598		G-THSTEPS (SEP 2016) Specimen Submission Form CAP# 3024401 CLIA #45D0660644 Laboratory Services Section, MC-1947 P. O. Box 149347, Austin, Texas 78714-9347 Courier: 1100 W. 49 th Street, Austin, Texas 78756 (888) 963-7111 x7318 or (512) 776-7318 http://www.dshs.texas.gov/lab		<i>***For DSHS Use Only***</i> Place DSHS Bar Code Label Here	
FOR TEXAS HEALTH STEPS SPECIMENS ONLY !!!					
IS THIS LABORATORY SUBMISSION PART OF THE THSTEPS MEDICAL CHECKUP OR FOLLOW-UP VISIT? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No					
The specimen submission form <i>must</i> accompany <i>each</i> specimen. The patient's name listed on the specimen <i>must</i> match the patient's name listed on the form. Specimen must have two (2) identifiers that match this form. If the Date of Collection field is not completed, the specimen will be rejected.					
Section 1. SUBMITTER INFORMATION – (** REQUIRED)			Section 4. ORDERING PHYSICIAN INFORMATION – (** REQUIRED)		
Submitter/TPI Number **		Submitter Name **		Ordering Physician's NPI Number **	
NPI Number **		Address **		Ordering Physician's Name **	
City **		State **	Zip Code **		Section 5. PAYOR SOURCE – (** REQUIRED) 1. Reflex testing will be performed when necessary and the appropriate party will be billed. 2. If the patient does not meet program eligibility requirements for the test requested and no third party payor will cover the testing, the submitter will be billed. 3. If the Medicaid number is not provided or is inaccurate, the submitter will be billed. 4. Please write the Medicaid number in the space provided below.
Phone **		Contact			
Fax **		Clinic Code			
Section 2. PATIENT INFORMATION – (** REQUIRED)			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> THSteps (1) Medicaid #: ** _____		
NOTE: Patient name on specimen is REQUIRED & MUST match name on this form & Medicaid card. Specimen must have two (2) identifiers that match this form.					
Last Name **		First Name **		MI	
Address **			Telephone Number		
Section 6. HL					
<input type="checkbox"/> Hemoglobin (Hb)					

Laboratory Services

Newborn Screening”

- 1st screen collected at 24-48 hours of age
- 2nd screen collected at 7-14 days of age
- Up to 12 months if no record of testing
- Special circumstances, such as adoption

DSHS NBS Clinical Care Coordination will:

- Open case for each out-of-range result
- Communicate abnormal results to the provider
- Provide guidance for recommended actions
- Monitor case until infant is cleared or diagnosis is determined

Laboratory Services

Accessing Newborn Screening Results:

All results reported to the submitting facility via mail, fax, HL7, or web application.

Additional copies can be accessed as follows:

Sign up as a registered user of the Texas Newborn Screening Web Application and access reports online, or contact DSHS Laboratory Reporting:

- Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- Send a fax request to 512-776-7533 or
- Call 512-776-7578

Laboratory Services

Texas Newborn Screening Web Application How to Sign Up - 3 Easy Steps

1. Download forms from:

<http://www.dshs.texas.gov/lab/remotedata.shtm>

2. Fill out:

- Security/Confidentiality Agreement (1 per facility) AND
- Web User Agreements (1 for each user)

3. Submit:

- Fax: 512-776-7157, Attn: Remote Lab Support, L357.1
- Or email: remotelabsupport@dshs.texas.gov

For help, call 1-888-963-7111 extension 6642 or 6030

Laboratory Services

Lead Screening and Testing

A blood lead level is mandatory at 12 and 24 months of age.

Initial screening:

- Venous or capillary specimen.
- Send specimens to DSHS Laboratory, or
- Provider may use point-of-care testing.

Laboratory Services

Lead Screening and Testing

- Point-of-care testing:
- Initial screening only
- Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments (CLIA)
- Procedure code 83655 with modifier QW
- Separate reimbursement

Laboratory Services

Lead Screening and Testing

Follow-up:

- Blood lead level of 5/mcg/dL or greater
- Venous specimen
- Laboratory of provider's choice

<http://www.dshs.texas.gov/lead/child.shtm>

Laboratory Services

Lead Screening and Testing

Risk assessment may be addressed as part of anticipatory guidance...

- Using the questions on the back of the Child Health Record forms (**optional**).
- Using Risk Assessment for Lead Exposure questionnaire, Form Pb-110 (**optional**).

OR

- Discussion of risk factors or other methods of education.

<http://www.dshs.texas.gov/thsteps/forms.shtm>

Laboratory Services

Lead Screening and Testing

Follow up assistance:

Contact MAXIMUS Special Services Unit at

1-877-847-8377 OR

Complete THSteps Provider Outreach Referral Form and
Fax to 1-512-533-3867 Attn: Special Services Unit

Lead Reporting

Must submit results to Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program (CLPPP) <http://www.dshs.texas.gov/lead/child.shtm>

Report all results

Laboratory Services

Dyslipidemia

- Required once for all clients 9 through 11 years of age and again at 18 through 20 years of age.
- Risk-based for all clients 24 months through 20 years.
- Child or specimen may be sent to laboratory of provider's choice, including the DSHS Laboratory.

Type 2 Diabetes

- Risk-based test.
- Child or specimen may be sent to laboratory of provider's choice, including the DSHS Laboratory.

Anemia Screening

- Mandatory according to the *THSteps Medical Checkup Periodicity Schedule*
- Required at 12 months of age
- DSHS Laboratory

Laboratory Services

Gonorrhea and Chlamydia Screening

- Risk-based.
- Amplified probe technique.
- Specimens must be submitted to the DSHS Laboratory.
- Supplies may be obtained from the DSHS Laboratory.

Syphilis

- Risk-based.
- Child or specimen may be sent to laboratory of provider's choice, including the DSHS Laboratory.

Laboratory Services

HIV:

- Required once for all clients 16 through 18 years of age.
- Risk-based for all clients 11 through 20 years of age.

Provide information that testing for HIV is

- Routinely available, confidential.
- Completely anonymous by choice.

Child or specimen may be sent to laboratory of provider's choice, including the DSHS Laboratory.

Completing the Checkup – Anticipatory Guidance

Each checkup:

- Child development
- Benefits of healthy lifestyles and practices, accident and disease prevention
- Must include time period for next checkup
- Written material may be given, but does not replace counseling

Oral Evaluation and Fluoride Varnish (OEFV) - Optional

- During THSteps medical checkup for ages 6 through 35 months
 - Limited oral evaluation
 - Fluoride varnish application
 - Referral to dental home
- Provided by trained and certified
 - Physicians
 - Physician Assistants
 - Advanced Practice Registered Nurses

<http://www.dshs.texas.gov/thsteps/OEFV.shtm>

Completing the Checkup – Anticipatory Guidance

Each checkup

- Child development
- Benefits of healthy lifestyles and practices, accident and disease prevention
- Must include time period for next checkup
- Written material may be given, but does not replace counseling

Exception to Periodicity

- Needed in addition to regularly scheduled checkups.
- Must be a complete medical checkup.
- Must be medically necessary.
 - The same procedure codes,
 - Provider type modifier, and
 - Condition indicators (NU, ST, S2)

Modifiers in table shown below indicate the reason for exception.

Modifier	
SC	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Medically necessary (developmental delay or suspected abuse).• Environmental high-risk (sibling of child with elevated blood level).
32	To meet state or federal requirements for Head Start, daycare, foster care, or pre-adoption.
23	Dental services provided under general anesthesia.

Required Components

Components of a THSteps Medical Checkup:

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

- Comprehensive health and development history, including developmental and nutritional assessment
- Comprehensive unclothed physical examination, including measurements
- Appropriate immunizations as indicated in the recommended Childhood and Adolescent Immunization Schedule – United States
- Laboratory tests as indicated on the Periodicity Schedule, including lead blood-level assessment appropriate for age and risk factors, anemia, and newborn screening
- Health education, including anticipatory guidance
- Vision and hearing screening
- Referral to dental checkups beginning at 6 months of age

Completeness

Complete THSteps Medical Checkup:

- Complete only if it includes all required components or documentation of why a particular component could not be completed.
- Previous results may be used to meet the checkup requirements if completed within:
 - Preceding 30 days for children who are 2 years of age and younger
 - Preceding 90 days for children who are 3 years of age and older

Screening & Referrals

Developmental Screening:

A standardized developmental or autism screening must be completed:

- If missed at an earlier checkup and still age appropriate
- New patients 9 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 delay or suspected delay is identified:

- Birth through 36 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.

Newborn Hearing Screening

Newborn Hearing Screening Requirement

A newborn hearing screening must be completed at the birthing facility. Automated auditory brainstem response (AABR) or transient evoke or distortion product otoacoustic emissions (OAE) may be performed.

- PCPs or medical homes (Texas Health Steps [THSteps] providers) must obtain a copy of the newborn hearing screening results within the TEHDI MIS if not provided by the birthing facility. The PCP or medical home must review all newborn hearing screening results with the parent or caregiver at the first checkup and determine if any additional follow-up is necessary.
- Newborns who do not pass the second screen in the birthing facility must be referred to a Medicaid-enrolled provider for an outpatient follow-up rescreen.
- Newborns who pass the outpatient rescreen must have their hearing monitored by their PCP or medical home per the THSteps periodicity schedule.

THSteps – Billing and Documentation



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Claims

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

Documentation:

Due Date of THSteps Medical Checkup

Date of Service

Status of Claim

Provider identifier

Benefit Code

Place of Service (POS)

ICD-10 Diagnosis Code

CPT code

Modifiers

CPT Codes:

Younger than 1 year – 99381 or 99391

12months – 4yrs – 99382 or 99392

5yr – 11yr – 99383 or 99393

12yr – 17yr – 99384 or 99394

18yr – 20yr – 99385 or 99395

99381 thru 99385 – new patient (to provider's practice) well child exam

99391 thru 99395 – established patient (to provider's practice) well child exam

Identifiers:

NPI #

TPI #

Benefit Code: EP1

Place of Service: 72

Outside of Periodicity

Checkups outside of the Texas Health Steps Periodicity Schedule:

- Checkups provided when a THSteps checkup is not due must be billed as an exception to the periodicity schedule.
- The claim must be submitted with the appropriate modifier.
- Payment will be made for these exceptions if the services are provided under the following categories:
 - Medically necessary, such as developmental delay or suspected abuse
 - Environmental high risk, such as a sibling of a child with elevated blood lead
 - Required to meet state or federal exam requirements for Head Start, day care, foster care, or pre-adoption
 - Required for dental services provided under general anesthesia
 - Migrant Farm Worker children needing THSteps exams prior to leaving the area

THSteps Medical Documentation



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Checkup Documentation

THSteps Checkup Documentation Improvement

According to Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) reviews of medical records have shown that missing documentation is the largest factor and the primary cause of records being reviewed and money being recouped. For providers to be reimbursed, each of the following six checkup components and their individual elements must be completed and clearly documented in the medical record:

1. Comprehensive health and developmental history - This includes nutrition screening, developmental and mental health screening and TB screening. 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.
2. Comprehensive unclothed physical examination - This includes measurements; height or length, weight, fronto-occipital circumference, BMI, blood pressure, and vision and hearing screening.
3. Appropriate immunizations - This is established by the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices, according to age and health history, including influenza, pneumococcal, and HPV.
4. Appropriate laboratory/screening tests - This includes newborn screening, blood lead level assessment appropriate for age and risk factors, and anemia.
5. Health education (including anticipatory guidance)
6. Oral health referral - This establishes a main dentist beginning at 6 months, then every 6 months until the parent or caregiver reports a dental home is established.

Checkup Documentation

THSteps Checkup Documentation Improvement

Below are links to the following documents for resources to assist you in completing THSteps checkup documentation:

[Texas Health Steps Clinical Record Review Tool with Instructions](http://www.dshs.texas.gov/thsteps/pdfdocs/THSteps-Clinical-Record-Review-Tool-w-Inst.xls)

(<http://www.dshs.texas.gov/thsteps/pdfdocs/THSteps-Clinical-Record-Review-Tool-w-Inst.xls>)

- This Excel workbook clinical record review tool is available to assist you in self-audits in preparation for health plan quality reviews. This electronic format will self-populate totals with numerical values.

[Texas Health Steps Clinical Record Review Tool](http://www.dshs.texas.gov/thsteps/pdfdocs/THSteps-Clinical-Record-Review-Tool.pdf)

(<http://www.dshs.texas.gov/thsteps/pdfdocs/THSteps-Clinical-Record-Review-Tool.pdf>)

- This PDF is the clinical record review tool to use as a paper copy. See instructions for paper copy use on Excel workbook.

Lab & Testing Supplies

THSteps Lab and Testing Supplies:

- All laboratory tests required as part of the 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 hyperlipidemia.
- Laboratory tests cannot be billed as a separate claim on the same date of service as a medical checkup.
- All newly enrolled THSteps providers receive a start up package of forms and supplies, included in the package are blood specimen collection supplies.
 - Additional supplies may be requested from the DSHS Laboratory Services via fax at 512-458-7672.

THSteps Dental



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Dental Services

THSteps Dental Services:

- Routine dental exams and services are available beginning at 6 months of age.
- Dental services are covered by the Dental Managed Care Organization the member is enrolled in.
- THSteps dental providers should submit claims directly to the Dental Managed Care Organization for processing, as well as follow any prior authorization requirements with that plan.
- Anesthesia and facility claims for dental surgeries are covered by RightCare and will be processed for payment consideration by RightCare.

Dental Services

Dental Oral Evaluation and Fluoride Varnish:

- Dental oral evaluation and fluoride varnish are covered by RightCare for children from 6 to 35 months of age.
- The oral evaluation and fluoride varnish application must be performed during a THSteps medical checkup.
- A dental evaluation includes the following:
 - Intermediate oral evaluation
 - Fluoride varnish application
 - Referral to a dental home beginning at 6 months of age
- DSHS requires that physicians complete the required benefit education regarding an intermediate oral evaluation with fluoride varnish application.
- Training for certification is available at: www.txhealthsteps.com.

Dental MCOs:

DentaQuest: 1-800-516-0165

MCNA Dental: 1-800-494-6262

Medical Checkup Requirements

Federally Mandated Components-

- Comprehensive Health and Developmental History
- Comprehensive Unclothed Physical Examination
- Immunizations
- Laboratory Screening
- Health Education/Anticipatory Guidance

State Requirement-

Dental referral every 6 months until a dental home is established.

THSteps Resources



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Resources

Resources

- THSteps offers brochures, posters, and other outreach resources at no cost to medical and dental providers, schools, community-based organizations (CBOs), case managers, and other THSteps partners.
- **THSteps Provider Outreach Referral Form (see Instructions link)**
<https://www.dshs.texas.gov/thsteps/POR.shtm>
 - Scheduling a follow-up appointment
 - Rescheduling a missed appointment
 - Scheduling transportation to an appointment
 - With other outreach services
- **Materials cover a variety of topics, including:**
 - Medical Checkup
 - Dental Checkup
 - Newborn Hearing Screening/TEHDI
 - Medical Transportation Program
 - Case Management for Children and Pregnant Women
- Located at: <http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/thsteps/THStepsCatalog.shtm>

Online Provider Education

Online Provider Education:

The THSteps Online Provider Education System offers tutorials and modules on a variety of topics for health care providers FREE of charge.

- Located at: www.txhealthsteps.com
- Each online module offers continuing education credit for health professionals at no charge.
- All courses are accredited by: Texas Medical Association (TMA), American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC), National Commission for Health Education Credentialing (CHES), and Texas State Board of Social Worker Examiners (TSBSWE).
- Select courses are approved by: Accreditation Council of Pharmacy Education (ACPE), UTHSCSA Dental School Office of Continuing Dental Education (UT Dental School), Texas State Board of Examiners of Professional Counselors, Texas State Board of Examiners of Marriage and Family Therapists, Texas Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics, International Board of Lactation Consultant Examiners, Texas Department of State Health Services Promotor/Community Health Worker Training and Certification Program, and the Texas Academy of Audiology.