Weight Assessment and Counseling in Children/Adolescents (WCC)

Let’s work together to improve health outcomes. The Healthcare Effectiveness Data and Information Set (HEDIS®) helps us measure many aspects of performance. This tip sheet details key points of the featured HEDIS measure.

What is the measure?
The measure assesses the percentage of members age 3-17, who had an outpatient/office visit with a primary care practitioner (PCP) or OB/GYN, and who had evidence of the following during the measurement year:

• Body measure index (BMI) percentile*
• Counseling for nutrition
• Counseling for physical activity

*BMI percentile as a value or plotted on an age-growth chart. The height, weight and BMI must be from the same chart, but can be on a different date of service during the measurement year.

How to Improve Your Score

• Review and document your patient’s BMI percentile and counseling 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, service specific to the assessment or treatment of an acute or chronic condition do not count towards the Counseling for Nutrition and Counseling for Physical Activity indicators.
• Use correct diagnosis and procedure codes
• Submit claims and encounter data in a timely manner

Exclusions

• Members who have a diagnosis of pregnancy during the measurement year. This is evident in the medical record by including a note indicating a diagnosis of pregnancy that occurred during the measurement year.
• Members in hospice or received hospice care.

(continued next page)
### HEDIS Measure: Weight Assessment and Counseling in Children/Adolescents (WCC)  
(continued)

#### BMI Percentile

**Compliant Documents in the Patient’s Medical Record for BMI Percentile**

- Documentation must include height, weight and BMI percentile during the measurement year. The height, weight and BMI percentile must be from the same data source.
- Either of the following meets criteria for BMI percentile:
  - BMI percentile documented as a value (e.g. 85th percentile). Documentation of >99% or <1% meet criteria because a distinct BMI percentile is evident (i.e., 100% or 0%)
  - BMI percentile plotted on an age-growth chart

**Documents NOT Compliant in the Patient’s Medical Record for BMI Percentile**

- No BMI percentile documented in medical record or plotted on age-growth chart
- Notation of BMI value only
- Notation of height and weight only
- Ranges and thresholds
- Self-reported by the member

#### Nutrition Counseling

**Compliant Documents in the Patient’s Medical Record for Nutrition Counseling**

- Documentation must include a note indicating the date and at least one of the following:
  - Discussion of nutrition behaviors (e.g. eating habits, dieting behaviors)
  - Completed checklist indicating nutrition was addressed
  - Counseling or referral for nutrition education
  - Member received educational materials/handouts on nutrition during a face-to-face visit
  - Anticipatory guidance for nutrition
  - Weight or obesity counseling

**Documents NOT Compliant in the Patient’s Medical Record for Nutrition Counseling**

- No counseling/education on nutrition and diet
- Counseling/education before or after the measurement year
- Notation of anticipatory guidance or health education without specific mention of nutrition
- A physical exam finding or observation along (e.g. well-nourished) is not compliant because it does not indicate counseling for nutrition
- Documentation related to a member’s appetite does not meet criteria

(continued next page)
HEDIS Measure: Weight Assessment and Counseling in Children/Adolescents (WCC) *(continued)*

### Physical Activity

#### Compliant Documents in the Patient’s Medical Record for Physical Activity

Documentation must include a note indicating the date and at least one of the following:

- Discussion of current physical activity behaviors (e.g., exercise routine, participation in sports activities, exam for sports participation)
- Checklist indicating physical activity was addressed
- Counseling or referral for physical activity
- Member received educational materials on physical activity during a face-to-face visit
- Anticipatory guidance specific to the child’s physical activity
- Weight or obesity counseling

#### Documents NOT Compliant in the Patient’s Medical Record for Physical Activity

- No counseling/education on physical activity
- Notation of *cleared for gym class* alone without documentation of a discussion
- Counseling/education before or after the measurement year
- Notation of *health education* or *anticipatory guidance* without specific mention of physical activity
- Notation of anticipatory guidance related solely to safety (e.g. wears helmet or water safety) without specific mention of physical activity recommendations.
- Notation solely related to screen time (computer or television) without specific mention of physical activity

### Medical Codes

**BMI:**

- ICD-10: Z68.51, Z68.52, Z68.53, Z68.54

**Nutrition:**

- CPT: 97802, 97803, 97804
- HCPCS: G0270, G0271, G0447, S9449, S9452, S9470
- ICD-10: Z71.3

**Physical Activity:**

- HCPCS: G0447, S9451
- ICD-10: Z02.5, Z71.82

**Hospice Exclusions:**

- CPT: 99377, 99378
- HCPCS: G0182

*Content reproduced with permission from HEDIS® 2020, Volume 2: Technical Specifications for Health Plans by the National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA). HEDIS measures and specifications are not clinical guidelines and do not establish a standard of medical care. NCQA makes no representations, warranties, or endorsement about the quality of any organization or physician that uses or reports performance measures and NCQA has no liability to any one who relies on such measures or specifications. Limited proprietary coding sets are contained in the specifications for convenience, and users should obtain all necessary licenses from the owners of the code sets. NCQA disclaims all liability for use or accuracy of any coding contained in the specifications. To purchase copies of the publication, including the full measures and specifications, visit ncqa.org/publications.*