



IMPROVING HEALTH CARE QUALITY

Immunizations for Adolescents

Blue Cross and Blue Shield of New Mexico (BCBSNM) collects quality data from our providers to measure and improve the quality of care our members receive. Immunizations for Adolescents (IMA) is one aspect of care we measure in our quality programs. Quality measures evaluate a prior calendar year performance.

What We Measure

We capture the percentage of adolescents 13 years of age who had one dose of meningococcal vaccine, one tetanus, diphtheria toxoids and acellular pertussis (Tdap) vaccine, and who have completed the human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine series by their 13th birthday.

A higher rate represents more proper vaccinating, which indicates better performance.

IMA is a Healthcare Effectiveness Data and Information Set (HEDIS®) measure. See the [National Committee for Quality Assurance \(NCQA\) website](#) for more details.



Why It Matters

Receiving recommended vaccinations is the best defense against vaccine-preventable diseases, including meningococcal meningitis, tetanus, diphtheria, pertussis (whooping cough) and human papillomavirus. These are serious diseases that can cause breathing difficulties, heart problems, nerve damage, pneumonia, seizures, cancer or death.

Eligible Population

Adolescents who turn 13 during the measurement year are included in this measure.

Exclusions:

- Members in hospice
- Adolescents who had an anaphylactic reaction to a vaccine or its components any time on or before their 13th birthday

Tips to Consider

- Address common misconceptions about vaccinations.
- Develop ways to remind members and their caregivers about upcoming immunizations.
- Review missing vaccines with members and their caregivers at visits.

How to Document

Quality data is collected from claims and chart review.

For more information, see [NCQA's HEDIS Measures and Technical Resources](#).



Questions?

Contact your BCBSNM Network Representative.



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