

Developmental Screening In The First Three Years Of Life

Importance

Developmental screening takes a closer look at how children are developing. Many children with developmental delays or behavior concerns are not identified as early as possible. Screenings help ensure any possible concerns are addressed as quickly as possible.

Developmental screening is a regular part of some well-child visits for all children even if there is no known concern.

The developmental screening national median rate is 36%. The Michigan average rate is 29%. Please assess and document developmental screenings to ensure your patients are meeting their developmental milestones while improving the average rate in Michigan.

Description

Children aged 0-3 should have a developmental screening at least once a year to look for developmental milestones or delays. This measure includes the percentage of children screened for risk of developmental, behavioral, and social delays. It uses a screening tool in the 12 months preceding or on their first, second, and third birthday.

Billing

When billing for a developmental assessment, please use CPT code 96110 or 96127.

Recommended Screening Tools

The tools used for developmental and behavioral screening are formal questionnaires or checklists based on research that ask questions about a child's development, including:

- Language
- Movement
- Thinking
- Behavior
- Emotions

The tools below are some examples that meet the criteria. They are included in the Bright Future Recommendations for Preventive Care. Visit <https://www.brightfutures.org/> for more information.

- Ages and Stages Questionnaire - 3rd Edition (ASQ-3)
- Parents' Evaluation of Developmental Status (PEDS) - Birth to age 8
- Parent's Evaluation of Developmental Status - Developmental Milestones (PEDS-DM)
- Survey of Well-Being in Young Children (SWYC)

Be sure to document the tools used for developmental screening in the patients' medical records.

Questions about the Developmental Screening Measure?

Please email hedis_team@hap.org.