



## ORAL EVALUATION, DENTAL SERVICES (OED)

### MEETING THE HEDIS MEASURE

The OED measure assesses the percentage of members under 21 years of age who received a comprehensive or periodic oral evaluation with a dental provider during the measurement year.

Four age stratifications are reported:

- 0–2 years
- 3–5 years
- 6–14 years
- 15–20 years

### WHY IS THE MEASURE IMPORTANT?

Dental caries (cavities) is the most common, preventable childhood disease.

Regular dental visits provide cleaning, early diagnosis, treatment, and education about caring for teeth to prevent problems.

Approximately 25% of our nation's children have multiple cavities. Tooth decay is a major cause of tooth loss in children. Oral health is essential to overall health. Dental diseases have negative effects on quality of life in childhood and in older age. Annual dental visits and routine oral care throughout childhood and adolescence can significantly reduce the risks of developing oral disease.

### REQUIREMENTS

- Chart documentation should include the date of services for the Oral Evaluation, Dental Service
- Dental visit must be completed by a dental practitioner, which is defined as:
  - Doctor of Dental Surgery (DDS)
  - Doctor of Dental Medicine (DMD)
  - Certified & Licensed Dental Hygienist

### SERVICE DATE RANGE

Continuous enrollment July 1–December 31 of the measurement year

### REQUIRED EXCLUSIONS

- Members in hospice or using hospice services during the measurement year
- Members who have died during the measurement year

### HOW TO IMPLEMENT BEST PRACTICES AND IMPROVE PERFORMANCE

**Provide** local primary care practitioners with your practice's contact information for easy member referral.

**Encourage** new members to establish a dental home with your practice to ensure good routine oral healthcare and follow ups.

**Find** your dental home when your child's first tooth appears, and no later than their first birthday.

**Remind** parents/guardians to brush child's teeth for two minutes, two times a day, and floss as soon as the teeth start touching.

**Supervise** your young child's toothbrushing.

**Remind** expectant mothers to make dental appointments for the baby either at the eruption of the first tooth or by the age of one.

**Send** parents reminders every six months to schedule for periodic exams, prophylaxis (cleanings), and fluoride treatments.

**Apply** sealants on the first molars to prevent tooth decay.

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\*Codes are not all inclusive

\*\*Claims data only, cannot accept data through any other supplemental sources such as data feeds and medical record collection methods.

## REFERENCES

*Annual dental visit.* NCQA. (2023a, January 18). <https://www.ncqa.org/hedis/measures/annual-dental-visit/>

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