



Annual Dental Visit (ADV) & Strategies for Improving Oral Health Outcomes

HEDIS® Measurement Year 2020 & 2021 Measures

Measure Description: The percentage of members 2–20 years of age who had at least one dental visit during the measurement year 1/1/21–12/31/21.

- Services must be performed by a dental practitioner (DDS, DMD, and certified and licensed dental hygienists).
- For many one year olds, visits will be counted because the specification includes children whose second birthday occurs during the measurement year.
- Teledentistry services utilized for dental emergencies will satisfy the ADV measure.

Importance of Preventive Dental Services

Aetna Better Health wants to help our members keep their teeth healthy. Aside from daily brushing, routine preventive oral healthcare with a dentist that includes services such as a dental cleaning can ensure this. Preventive oral healthcare helps our members avoid cavities, gum disease, and wearing of their teeth’s enamel. Aetna Better Health measures this care through the ADV HEDIS measure and the preventive dental services performance measure.

Any claim with a dental practitioner during the measurement year meets criteria for the ADV HEDIS measure. Teledentistry services utilized for dental emergencies will satisfy the ADV measure. CDT D9995 Teledentistry - Synchronous; real-time encounter along with CDT D0140 Limited oral evaluation - problem focused, should be reported when completing care via teledentistry. Any of the preventive services and procedures satisfies both the ADV HEDIS measure, as well as the preventive dental services performance measure.

Code Class	Codes	Description
CDT	D1000-D1999	Preventive Dental Visits

There are also codes that can be used when providing education or counseling to parents.

Code Class	Codes	Description
CDT	D1330	Oral Hygiene Instructions
CDT	D1310	Nutritional counseling for control and prevention of oral disease.
CDT	D1320	Tobacco Cessation

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It is equally important to provide care to members between the ages of 0-2. The following codes used together will demonstrate preventive services for this age group and satisfy the preventive dental services performance measure:

Code Class	Codes	Description
CDT	D0145	Oral evaluation for a patient under 3 years of age and counseling with primary caregiver (this is used in place of a comprehensive exam)
CDT	D1120	Prophylaxis—child Age 13 or younger (prophylaxis may include any appropriate instrument such as a toothbrush)
CDT	D1208	Topical application of fluoride (when appropriate)
CDT	D0140 with D9995	Telehealth for emergency dental services are covered and count towards ADV

Incentive for Dental Practitioners

Aetna Better Health of Pennsylvania wishes to reward dental providers (Dental Practitioners: DDS, DMD, and certified and licensed dental hygienists) in our network for the exceptional services they provide our membership. In recognition of this excellent service, Aetna Better Health offers a Pay for Quality program incentive to our network of dental providers.

Panel Requirement: None

Required Service: Preventive oral healthcare once during calendar year 2021

Incentives: Dental practitioners will receive payment biannually per member for one of the following attributable categories:

Member Category	Incentive	Required Service
Ages 6 months-5 yrs	\$50.00 biannually per member	Members who receive a preventive dental service in the calendar year (2021)
Ages 6-20 yrs	\$25.00 biannually per member	Members who receive a preventive dental service in the calendar year (2021)

Care must be captured on claims and meet the following coding requirements:

Two codes per visit submission are required to qualify:

- Include one of the following codes:
 - D0120 periodic oral evaluation – established patient
 - D0145 oral evaluation for a patient under three years of age and counseling with primary caregiver
 - D0150 comprehensive oral evaluation – new or established patient
- AND
 - Include one of the following procedure types: D1000 – D1999

***Note:** Payments to be paid out biannually in 2021.

***Note:** Payments are based on state funding and may stop at anytime.

Eligible Population

Ages: 2–20 years of age as of December 31 of the measurement year.

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Strategies for Improving Oral Health Outcomes

- Advise members/parents that members may be eligible to receive a gift card for going to the dentist for a cleaning. This can encourage members to keep appointments once they are referred and scheduled with a dentist.
- Provide local primary care practitioners with your practice’s contact information for easy patient referral.
- Encourage new patients to establish a dental home with your practice to ensure good routine oral healthcare and follow ups.
- Remind expectant mothers to make dental appointments for the baby either at the eruption of 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. Refer to this source from the American Dental Association on dental sealants and the clinical practice guidelines from 2016 — [ADA.org/en/member-center/oral-health-topics/dental-sealants](https://ada.org/en/member-center/oral-health-topics/dental-sealants)
- Provide credible resources for parents on sealants. The Journal of the American Dental Association offers talking points on sealants— [JADA.ADA.org/article/S0002-8177\(16\)30444-5/fulltext](https://jada.ada.org/article/S0002-8177(16)30444-5/fulltext)

***For some general recommendations on pediatric dental care you can refer to the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry: AAPD.org.**

Covered Benefits for Members of All Ages

Since 2019, all restrictions were lifted for any level of a hygiene treatment.

Code Class	Codes	Description
CDT	D4346, D4355, and D4910	These codes will be a covered benefit for any age group
CDT	D4341 and D4342	These codes will be a covered benefit for any age group, with the appropriate prior authorization

Since 2019, dental emergency exams have been a covered benefit.

Code Class	Codes	Description
CDT	D0140	Limited oral evaluation- problem focused