



BlueCross BlueShield of Texas



IMPROVING HEALTH CARE QUALITY

# Non-Recommended Cervical Cancer Screening in Adolescent Females

Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Texas (BCBSTX) collects quality data from our providers to measure and improve the quality of care our members receive. Non-Recommended Cervical Cancer Screening in Adolescents (NCS) is just one aspect of care we measure in our quality programs. Quality measures evaluate a prior calendar year performance.

## What We Measure

We track the percentage of adolescents with a cervix ages 16–20 who were screened unnecessarily for cervical cancer. A lower rate means more appropriate testing, which indicates better performance.

NCS 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

Cervical cancer screening can cause more harm than good for adolescents. Adolescents with a cervix tend to have high rates of transient human papillomavirus (HPV) infection and regressive cervical abnormalities. These may produce false-positive results and lead to unnecessary and potentially detrimental follow-up tests and treatment.



## Eligible Population

Adolescent members with a cervix 16–20 years of age as of December 31 of the measurement year are included in this measure.

### Exclusions:

- Members in hospice
- Members with a history of cervical cancer, HIV or immunodeficiency disorders

## Tips to Consider

- Evaluate need for screening on healthy asymptomatic members.
- Consider not screening adolescents with a cervix regardless of behavior-related risk factors.

## How to Document

Quality data is collected from claims information only. No chart review information is collected.

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



### Questions?

Contact your BCBSTX Network Representative.



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