



**BlueCross BlueShield
of Texas**

Texas Health Steps (THSteps) Guidelines Clarified

Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Texas (BCBSTX) Medicaid continues to work on methods to improve Texas Health Steps (THSteps) performance rates. BCBSTX Medicaid would like to clarify the THSteps guidelines for you. Below are a couple of scenarios to assist you.

Can a THSteps Primary Care Provider (PCP) perform a THSteps visit on a member that is not currently listed on the member's Medicaid card as "their" PCP?

✓ *Yes, any THSteps Provider can complete a member's THSteps visit.*

If I complete a THSteps visit on a member that is not currently on my member panel, will I still be paid?

✓ *Yes, any THSteps Provider can complete any BCBSTX Medicaid member's THSteps visit and will be paid.*

Patient A joined my clinic in August of 2022 when Patient A was 10 years old. At that time, I performed their 10-year-old THSteps visit. Patient's A 11th birthday is on February 4th. Patient A's mother scheduled him a THSteps visit on February 5th 2023. It has not been one calendar year since their last THSteps visit. Will I be paid for this visit?

✓ *Yes, payment is determined by the number of visits allowed based on the members age and periodicity schedule. Payment isn't based on the months between the THSteps visits.*

I performed Patient's B THSteps visit last month but I am not Patient's B assigned PCP. Today their mother is calling my office to schedule a visit because Patient B has a sore throat. Can I see them?

✓ *Yes, you can see Patient B for their sore throat, and you will be paid for services rendered despite your name not being listed as the PCP. However, you and your staff can encourage Patient's B mother to call the number on the back of their card and change their PCP on file to you.*

Patient C, a 3-year-old member of your practice is coming in for their annual THSteps visit. You complete a comprehensive evaluation of Patient's C health, mental and physical development, and nutritional status. You complete an unclothed physical exam without acute findings, check vital signs, height, weight, Body Mass Index (BMI) and review of vaccination record with their mother. You note there are no needed vaccinations this year. You complete Patient C's visual acuity testing, TB screening, and note that no labs are indicated. You review age-appropriate anticipatory guidance and let their mother know they should be seen again in one year for their next THSteps visit. How would you bill this visit?



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<i>Appropriate billing may include:</i>	<i>Required on all THSteps claims</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Diagnosis code Z00.129• CPT 99392 with AM modifier• Condition Code NU• 96110 Developmental Pediatric Testing	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• EP1 code is required for all MCD visits that are not a Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC).• FQHC will use EP• Rural Health Clinic (RHC) will use the EP1 code and place of service modifier 72

Resources

- [The Texas Health Step Quick Reference Guide](#)
- The [Texas Health Steps website](#) offers up-to-date information on periodicity schedules, visit observations and trainings as resources to providers.
- Reference and review the [BCBSTX Quality Improvement Toolkits](#), [BCBSTX Preventive Care Guidelines \(PCGs\)](#), [Clinical Practice Guidelines \(CPGs\)](#), and Texas Health Steps [THSteps for Medical Providers](#), which includes all current vaccine schedules, [ImmTrac2](#) and other important guidance for treating your patients.