



Texas Health Steps

Developmental Screening

Coverage: All Texas Medicaid Texas Health Steps and Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic and Treatment members from birth to 6 years

Goal: Ensure timely detection of developmental delays through standardized screening and surveillance during THSteps visits

Required Screening Ages and Tools

Age	Developmental Tool	Autism Tool
9 months	Ages and Stages Questionnaire, Parent’s Evaluation of Developmental Status or Survey of Well-being of Young Children	
12 months	Surveillance (milestones)	
18 months	ASQ, PEDS or SWYC	M-CHAT or M-CHAT R/F
24 months	ASQ, PEDS or SWYC	M-CHAT or M-CHAT R/F
30 months	ASQ:SE, PEDS or SWYC*	M-CHAT or M-CHAT R/F *
36 months	ASQ:SE, PEDS or SWYC	
4-6 years	ASQ, ASQ:SE, PEDS or SWYC (annually)	

*If the ASQ:SE, PEDS or SWYC, M-CHAT or M-CHAT R/F was previously missed it may be made up at the 30 months visit.

Billing and Coding Requirements

- Use Current Procedural Terminology (CPT®) code 96110 for standardized developmental screenings.
- For autism screening, attach modifier U6.
- Screenings must occur during a reimbursed THSteps visit; standalone screenings are not reimbursed.

Document the tool, date, score, interpretation and follow-up within the same visit note.

Documentation Tips

Include in the Electronic Health Record:

- The tool used (e.g., ASQ-3 or SWYC)
- Date and age of child
- Results with scoring
- Interpretation + plan
- Copies of completed questionnaires

Common Claim Pitfalls

- Submitting codes without a THSteps visit
- Using non-approved tools
- Missing autism screening at 18 or 24 months
- Failing to track annual required screenings

THSteps Periodicity and Texas Medicaid and Healthcare Partnership Resources

- [THSteps Periodicity Schedule](#)
- [TMHP THSteps program information](#)
- [Developmental Surveillance Guidelines](#)

Resources

- Our [preventive care guidelines](#) on immunization schedules
- Information on childhood [vaccines](#) and [well-visits](#) for our members
- Texas Immunization Registry [ImmTrac2](#)
- Quality improvement [toolkits and tip sheets](#)
- [Texas Health Steps](#)

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