

Influenza Vaccination for Infants: HEDIS Best Practices

Florida Blue remains committed to collaborating with you to improve health outcomes for your patients – our members. As part of this commitment, we are reaching out to highlight the importance of influenza (flu) vaccination in infants, as supported by the Healthcare Effectiveness Data and Information Set (HEDIS^{®1}) guidelines.

Why is Flu Vaccination Important for Infants? The flu is a serious illness that can lead to severe complications in young children. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends all infants receive two doses of the influenza vaccine between 180 days (six months) after birth and before their second birthday. This vaccine is a vital component of preventive pediatric care.

What is the HEDIS Measure? The Childhood Immunization Status (CIS) HEDIS measure, as it relates to infant flu vaccinations, evaluates the percentage of children who receive two doses of the flu vaccine between 180 days of life and their second birthday. This metric is an important indicator of quality care and supports efforts to reduce the risk of flu-related complications in young children.

Recommendations to Improve Compliance: To support accurate reporting and improve your performance on this measure, we encourage you to take the following steps:

1. Review and Document Vaccinations: Ensure vaccine records include the name of the specific antigen (vaccine) and the administration date.
2. Document Medical History: Record any relevant medical contraindications if a child is not vaccinated.
3. Report Immunizations: Submit all administered immunizations to the [Florida SHOTS](#) immunization registry, including those reported by a parent, guardian, or other provider via fax, etc.
4. Submit Claims Promptly: Timely submission of claims and encounter data ensures accurate reporting and assessment.

For detailed information regarding this HEDIS measure, including documentation and coding guidelines, exclusion codes, or how to improve your scores, please refer to the [2025 HEDIS Measure: Childhood Immunization Status \(CIS\) resource](#).

Thank you for your continued dedication and efforts to improve health outcomes and keep our youngest members healthy and protected.

¹HEDIS is a registered trademark of the National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA).