

## The Importance of Well Child Visits

### Neighborhood News – October 2024

Regular check-ups are essential for children and teens, yet many have missed crucial appointments and vaccinations in recent years. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the American Academy of Pediatrics recommend catching up on vaccinations to ensure children are ready for school, childcare, and other activities.

In the Measurement Year (MY) 2022, Neighborhood Health Plan of Rhode Island's (Neighborhood) Healthcare Effectiveness Data Information Set (HEDIS®) rate for Well Child Visit measure among Medicaid members was 62.57%, placing us in the 75<sup>th</sup> percentile of the Medicaid Quality Compass®. However, by MY 2023 this rate declined to 61.19%, highlighting significant potential for improvement.

### What Providers Can Do to Help

- **Schedule Proactively:** Encourage families to schedule their next appointment at the end of each visit.
- **Time it Right:** Plan annual check-up visits for members aged 3-21 years about 2-3 weeks before their birthday to ensure timely assessments.
- **Maximize Visits:** Use every interaction, including visits for acute illnesses, to address well care components when appropriate.
- **Reminder Calls:** Consider making reminder calls in the late afternoon or early evening for better contact success.
- **Digital Alerts:** Implement electronic reminders such as emails or text messages to alert families about upcoming appointments.
- **Utilize Reports:** Leverage Provider Gap in Care Reports from Neighborhood to identify members who are overdue for visits with their primary care physician.
- **Use the Right Codes:** For billing and to meet HEDIS standards, refer to the following codes for the Children and Adolescent Access to Primary Care Practitioners (CAP):
  - **ICD-10 Codes:** Z00.00, Z00.01, Z00.110, Z00.111, Z00.121, Z00.129, Z00.2, Z00.3, Z01.411, Z01.419, Z02.5, Z76.1, Z76.2
  - **HCPCS Codes:** G0438, G0439, S0302, S0610, S0612, S0613
  - **CPT Codes:** 99381, 99382, 99383, 99384, 99385, 99391, 99392, 99393, 99394, 99395, 99461

### Additional Resources

Check our website for [member rewards forms](#) that incentivize timely visits and vaccinations.