

# Immunizations and Screening Tests for Healthy Children

Talk to your child’s doctor about when your child should have the following screenings.

Screenings	0–1 year (Infancy)	1–4 years (Early Childhood)	5–10 years (Middle Childhood)	11–17 years (Adolescence)
Routine Well Visits (including developmental milestones, behavioral assessments, anticipatory guidance, physical activity, and nutrition)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Between 1–2 weeks and at 1, 2, 4, 6, 9, and 12 months</li> <li>Discuss breastfeeding infants between 2–5 days</li> </ul>	At 15, 18, and 24 months and ages 3 and 4	Annually	
Anemia	Once between 9–12 months	As needed at doctor’s discretion		Starting at age 12, screen all non-pregnant females every 5-10 years
Cholesterol		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Screen if at risk, or at least once if there is a family history of premature cardiovascular disease, a parent with known lipid disorder, or a parent with a body mass index (BMI) above 85th percentile</li> <li>Starting at age 9, screen at least once, if not previously screened. Screen once between ages 11-21, if not previously screened, or risk factors have changed.</li> </ul>		
Blood Test for Lead	Initial screening between 9–12 months	At ages 2 and 3, and age 4 if in high risk area	Screen before child enters kindergarten, if not previously screened	
Hepatitis C	Anti-hepatitis C virus test between ages 1–10 for children of hepatitis C-positive mothers			
Growth and Body Mass Index	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Check growth using length, weight, and head circumference until age 2</li> <li>Screen annually for healthy weight</li> <li>Plot value on CDC’s growth and BMI charts specifically for ages 2-20.</li> </ul>			
Blood Pressure		Every well visit, beginning at age 3		
Hearing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Check before newborn discharge or by 1 month</li> <li>Monitor every 6 months until age 3 if there is a language delay or risk of hearing loss</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Screen at ages 4, 5, 6, 8, and 10</li> <li>Check at all other routine checkups</li> </ul>	
Vision	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Check before newborn discharge or by 2 weeks</li> <li>Evaluate fixation preference, alignment, and eye disease by 6 months</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Screen for strabismus (lazy eye) between ages 3–5</li> <li>Visual acuity test between ages 3–6 and at ages 8, 10, 12, and 15</li> </ul>		
Oral Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>From 6 months to 14 years of age, primary doctor checks oral health at each visit and the need for fluoride supplementation based on water supply and dietary source of fluoride</li> <li>Discuss brushing teeth with a soft toothbrush or cloth and water starting at 6 months</li> <li>Choose a dental home, or a place where child receives regular oral health care, beginning at 1 year or after child’s first tooth appears</li> <li>Periodically check oral health risks for children ages 1-17</li> </ul>			

Screenings (continued)	0–1 year (Infancy)	1–4 years (Early Childhood)	5–10 years (Middle Childhood)	11–17 years (Adolescence)
Sexually Transmitted Diseases				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• For HIV, discuss risks starting at age 11; screen all children for HIV once between ages 15-17; and routinely screen at-risk children</li> <li>• For chlamydia and gonorrhea, screen annually if sexually active</li> <li>• For syphilis, screen if at risk</li> </ul>
Testicular Exam (Males)				Annual clinical and self exams beginning at age 15
<b>Immunizations</b>				
Hepatitis A		2 doses between 12–23 months (second dose should be given 6-18 months after the first)		
Hepatitis B	3 doses: at birth, between 1–2 months, and between 6–18 months			
Hepatitis C		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Anti-hepatitis C test for children ages 1-10 who have hepatitis C-positive mothers</li> <li>• Periodic testing for at-risk children ages 11-17</li> </ul>		
Diphtheria, Tetanus, and Pertussis (DTaP); Tetanus, Diphtheria, and Acellular Pertussis (Tdap) <a href="#">Note: These replace the Tetanus Diphtheria (Td) immunization.</a>	5 doses of DTaP vaccine at 2, 4, and 6 months, between 15-18 months, and between ages 4-6			1 does of Tdap vaccine between ages 11-12
Inactivated Polio (IPV)	4 doses: at 2 months, 4 months, between 6–18 months, and between ages 4–6			
Haemophilus (Hib)	4 doses: at 1, 4, and 6 months, and between 12-15 months			
Measles, Mumps, Rubella (MMR)		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1 dose between 12–15 months</li> <li>• 1 dose between ages 4–6</li> </ul>		
Varicella (Chickenpox)		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2 doses between 12–15 months</li> <li>• 1 dose at age 4</li> <li>• 1 dose at age 6</li> </ul>		
Pneumococcal	4 doses: at 2, 4, and 6 months, and between 12–15 months			
Meningococcal				2 dose series: 1 dose between ages 11-12; 1 dose at age 16
Human Papillomavirus (HPV)			2 doses at 5 month intervals between ages 9-13	
Flu	Annually during flu season starting at 6 months			
Rotavirus	2 or 3 doses (depending on exact vaccine) at 2, 4, and 6 months			
Tuberculosis (TB)	Skin tests for children at high risk of infection			

Please check your subscriber certificate or benefit description for a complete listing of covered tests and procedures. Your plan may not cover every screening test listed. These guidelines are generally for healthy children with no current symptoms or prior history of medical conditions. Parents of children with medical conditions or a family history of certain diseases should talk to their children's doctor about the right recommendations for screenings.

These guidelines were developed by Massachusetts Health Quality Partners (MHQP), a broad-based coalition of health care providers, plans, and purchasers working together to promote improvement in the quality of health care services in Massachusetts. Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts is an MHQP member.

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ATTENTION: If you don't speak English, language assistance services, free of charge, are available to you. Call Member Service at the number on your ID Card (TTY: 711).

ATENCIÓN: Si habla español, tiene a su disposición servicios gratuitos de asistencia con el idioma. Llame al número de Servicio al Cliente que figura en su tarjeta de identificación (TTY: 711).

ATENÇÃO: Se fala português, são-lhe disponibilizados gratuitamente serviços de assistência de idiomas. Telefone para os Serviços aos Membros, através do número no seu cartão ID (TTY: 711).



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