

HEDIS: Appropriate testing for pharyngitis

This communication applies to the Medicaid programs for Simply Healthcare Plans, Inc. (Simply) and Clear Health Alliance (CHA) as well as the Florida Healthy Kids (FHK) program for Simply.

This HEDIS® measure evaluates members 3 years and older where the member was diagnosed with pharyngitis, dispensed an antibiotic, and received a group A streptococcus (strep) test for the episode. Since there is considerable evidence that prescribing antibiotics is not the first line of treatment for cold or sore throats caused by viruses, pediatric Clinical Practice Guidelines recommend only children with lab-confirmed group A strep or other bacteria-related ailments be treated with appropriate antibiotics. Record results of strep test.

Codes to identify pharyngitis: Diagnosis ICD-10

Diagnosis	ICD-10/ CPT®
Acute pharyngitis	ICD-10: J02.8, J02.9
Acute tonsillitis	ICD-10: J03.00, J03.01, J03.80-J03.81, J03.90-J03.91
Streptococcal sore throat	ICD-10: J02.0
Streptococcus, group A test direct optical observation	CPT: 87880

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

<https://provider.simplyhealthcareplans.com>

<https://provider.clearhealthalliance.com>

Simply Healthcare Plans, Inc. is a Managed Care Plan with a Florida Medicaid contract. Simply Healthcare Plans, Inc. dba Clear Health Alliance is a Managed Care Plan with a Florida Medicaid contract. Simply Healthcare Plans, Inc. is a Managed Care Plan with a Florida Healthy Kids contract.

SFLPEC-2657-21 July 2021