Healthcare Effectiveness Data and Information Set (HEDIS) is the measurement tool used by health plans to evaluate their performance in terms of clinical quality including measuring well-child visits. For HEDIS well-child measures, please note that documentation in the patient’s chart is required for evidence of health education and anticipatory guidance. Handouts in the record alone do not count as documentation of health education or anticipatory guidance.

Examples of anticipatory guidance include specific documentation in the chart about:

- Nutrition
- Oral health
- Immunizations explained
- Infant care
- Behavior and development
- Parent-infant interaction
- Injury/illness prevention

Examples of health education include specific documentation in the chart about:

- Injury and illness prevention
- Nutrition
- Oral health
- Mental health
- Sexuality
- Social competence
- Substance use and abuse prevention
- Responsibility
- School or vocational achievements
- Family
- Community

Documentation that does not count as documentation of anticipatory guidance/health education for well-child measures:

- Allergies, medications, or immunizations alone
- “Appropriate for age” without mentioning the type of physical and mental development
- “Well-developed/nourished/appearing”
- “Neurological exam” or “ Appropriately responsive” for development
- Vital signs alone for the physical exam
- Health education/anticipatory guidance related to medications or immunizations or the side effects