



Follow-up care recommendations

For children and adolescents prescribed ADHD medications

American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) guidelines² – Children and adolescents on newly prescribed ADHD medications should have follow-up care with a prescribing provider **within 2 weeks**.

HEDIS[®] guidelines¹ – Schedule follow-up appointments as follows:

- First follow-up **within 30 days** from the initial prescription date with a provider who has prescribing authority
- At least **2 more** follow-up appointments with any practitioner **over the next 9 months**

Why timely follow-up matters

Follow-up within 30 days of starting medication is critical for monitoring medication efficacy, side effects and adherence.¹⁻²

Best practices for patient follow-up

- Schedule follow-up appointments before your patients leave the office³
- Ensure all practice providers and office staff are aware of timely follow-up requirements
- Label appointment slots as "initial medication checks" to help prioritize scheduling
- Have Advanced Practice Registered Nurses conduct the follow-up visits
- Use home monitoring tools (e.g., blood pressure cuffs, smart scales and wearables)
- Train parents to record and report vitals during virtual visits
- Offer nurse-led vitals checks at local clinics or pharmacies
- Schedule hybrid visits combining brief in-person vitals with virtual consultations
- Combine behavioral therapy with medication to enhance attention, reduce impulsive behavior and minimize side effects and dosage needed

Coordination of care tools and resources

Remember to ask for contact information for other treating providers as you coordinate patient care. You may use this [form](#) to facilitate. Request coordination of care and referrals for members by calling the number on the back of the member’s health plan ID card or searching liveandworkwell.com (use code “clinician”).

You can also find additional educational materials, best practice tips and screening tools at:

- Behavioral health providers
 - [Clinical and Quality Measures Toolkit](#)
- Medical health providers
 - [Behavioral Health Toolkits for Medical Providers](#)
 - [Child and Adolescent Behavioral Health Toolkit](#)

¹ National Committee for Quality Assurance HEDIS[®] Specifications; see HEDIS and Quality Measures at [NCQA.org](https://www.ncqa.org).

² American Academy of Pediatrics at [AAP.org](https://www.aap.org)

³ Johns Hopkins Medicine. ADD-E - Follow-Up Care for Children Prescribed ADHD Medication. Available <https://www.hopkinsmedicine.org/johns-hopkins-health-plans/providers-physicians/health-care-performance-measures/hedis/follow-up-care-children-prescribed-adhd-med>