

# Tennessee Chapter

American Academy of Pediatrics

DEDICATED TO THE HEALTH OF ALL CHILDREN®



Quality  
Improvement  
Initiatives

## Quality Improvement Initiatives

Improve Outpatient Care and Earn MOC Part 4!

### TNAAP's QI Initiatives Help Pediatric Providers:

- Implement QI in a practice setting by adopting standardization, measurement, and continuous improvement processes.
- Adopt value-driven practice measures.
- Improve outpatient care in the most efficient way.
- Provide a safe environment for data sharing and improvement initiatives.



**TNAAP is an ABP Portfolio Sponsor** and our QI Projects are accredited for Maintenance of Certification (MOC) Part 4 credits and ABFM Performance Improvement Credit (PIC).

### Each Topic-Specific Project:

- Is a blend of short, focused educational content from topic experts.
- Includes ongoing data collection for tracking progress to demonstrate tangible improvements over time.
- Aligns well with value-based care principles-balancing quality with cost effectiveness.

### TNAAP Supports Participants by providing:

- Quality Improvement Training and Support for the entire practice team.
- Enhanced in-person and online and medical education.
- Metrics that are of high value to ambulatory pediatric care.
- Personalized reports of your progress.
- ABP Maintenance of Certification (MOC) Part 4 Credit or ABFM PIC.

### Projects offered include:

- **Behavioral Health in Pediatrics (BeHiP):** Addressing mental health concerns through implementation of screening and connection with referral resources
- **Foster Care Medical Home (FCMH):** Increasing efficiency and delivery of services for children in foster care
- **Immunizations:** Enhancing vaccine rates and vaccine confidence.
- **Screening Tools and Referral (START):** Adopting use of the most current developmental and behavioral health screening tools and referral practices.
- **Well Care:** Increasing well-child visits and preventive care.

(See more information about each project on page 2)

**Projects (and associated support) are Grant Funded and Offered Free of Charge to Participants.**

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Visit the Tennessee AAP website at [www.tnaap.org](http://www.tnaap.org) to learn more about each of these projects!

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# Tennessee Chapter

INCORPORATED IN TENNESSEE

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## Behavioral Health

**Who:** Children ages 11-21

**What:** Increase screening for the identified behavioral health concern (Depression or Substance Abuse) by 10% over a 6-12 month period.

**Why:** Mental Health is becoming a larger portion of primary care pediatrics. One in five children in the United States have emotional symptoms causing impairment.

**How:** BeHiP education provides pediatric healthcare providers with tools and strategies to screen for, assess, and manage patients with emotional, behavioral, and substance abuse concerns. Implement key process measures to increase screening and improve clinic workflow.

## Foster Care Medical Home

**Who:** Children in foster care

**What:** To improve the quality of medical and mental health care of children in foster care by increasing screening for the identified behavioral health concern (Depression or Substance Abuse) by 10% over a 6-12 month period

**WHY:** For children in the foster care system, mental and behavioral health is the largest unmet need. Children in the foster care system have experienced at least one traumatic event, with most having multiple traumatic events. These children also have a higher incidence of physical health problems, many of which are rooted in the adverse events they have experienced. Ideally, these children would have access to a well-trained, experienced mental health clinician. However, the reality is that many communities lack mental and behavioral health providers for children. In these cases, the primary care provider becomes the sole source of care.

**How:** Education designed to meet the special needs of children in foster care Key topics include navigation of the Department of Children's Services system, connecting with local DCS staff, trauma-informed care, ACEs, use of screening tools, office-based interventions, psychopharmacology and more, with the goal of becoming a FCMH.

## Developmental Screening

**Who:** Children under 2 and adolescents by age 13

**What:** Increase screening for the developmental and behavioral health concern (developmental, ADD/ADHD, Autism, Depression or Substance Abuse) by 10% over a least a 6-12-month period using a validated tool.

**Why:** Many children with developmental delays or behavior concerns are not identified as early as possible. As a result, these children must wait to get the help they need to do well in social and educational settings. In the United States, about 1 in 6 children aged 3 to 17 years have one or more developmental or behavioral disabilities.

**How:** Education provides pediatric healthcare providers with tools and strategies to screen for developmental and behavioral health concerns. It also encompasses strategies to provide for more efficient workflow coding, more effective care, and improved family and physician relationships.

## Immunizations

**Who:** Children under 2 and adolescents by age 13

**What:** Increase immunization rates for Combo 10 and Combo 2 by 5% over 6-12 month period.

**Why:** Between 2019 and 2021, almost 220,000 (13.6%) fewer doses of childhood vaccines have been administered to Tennessee Children. This places Tennessee children at risk for various communicable diseases and threatens herd immunity.

**How:** Virtual education provides content experts on topics such as improving vaccine confidence, social media strategies, and motivational interviewing. Included are resources for vaccine promotion and support to promote evidence-based process changes that can assist to increase all immunization rates.

## Well Care

**Who:** Children ages 0-21

**What:** Increase annual well-care visits by 5% over a 6-12 month period.

**Why:** Research has shown that evidence-based preventive services can save lives and improve health by identifying illnesses earlier, managing them more effectively, and treating them before they develop into more complicated, debilitating conditions, and cost-effective.

**How:** Well Care/EPSTD and Coding education provides training to help improve the quality of preventive health screens and can assist with pediatric coding issues through various resources and services.



Foster Care  
Medical Home

start  
SCREENING TOOLS AND REFERRAL TRAINING

