Clinical guidelines for pediatric SCD patients recommend

- Patients were slightly younger in the Medicaid population (mean age 8.3 years) compared with commercially insured patients (mean age 9.7 years) (Figure 5).
- Acute chest syndrome (ACS) accounted for the majority of hospitalizations across age groups and across payers (57% to 81% across age groups) (Table 3).
- No marked differences were observed when results were stratified by urban/rural status, regardless of payer or age group (Figure 5).
- Potential for misclassification of SCD and HbSS was present as patients were identified through administrative claims data as opposed to medical records.
- The proportion of patients aged 11 to 16 years who received pneumococcal vaccination might be underestimated, as this age group includes patients for whom capture of booster vaccinations is incomplete.
- The proportion of patients aged 11 to 16 years who received influenza vaccination might be underestimated as patients in this age group are more likely to be vaccinated outside of the insurance system.
- Influenza and pneumococcal vaccines may be underreported as vaccines provided by state/local agencies are not captured in these databases.
- The proportion of patients aged 11 to 16 years who received pneumonia vaccine was likely to have ophthalmologist visits (Figure 6).