

Colorectal Cancer Screening (COL-E)

HEDIS Tip Sheet MY 2024



Measure definition

The percentage of members 45–75 years of age who had appropriate screening for colorectal cancer

Plans(s)	Quality Program(s)	Collection and Reporting
Marketplace Medicaid Medicare	CMS Quality Rating System CMS Star Ratings NCQA Accreditation NCQA Health Plan Ratings	Admin only for Medicaid Electronic data only (ECDS)

Any of the following screenings meet criteria:

- Fecal occult blood test (FOBT) during the measurement period. For administrative data, assume the required number of samples were returned, regardless of FOBT type.
- Stool DNA (sDNA) with FIT test during the measurement period or the two years prior to the measurement period.
- Flexible sigmoidoscopy during the measurement period or the four years prior to the measurement period.
- CT colonography during the measurement period or the four years prior to the measurement period.
- Colonoscopy during the measurement period or the nine years prior to the measurement period.

Best practices for quality care

- Discuss the importance of early detection and encourage screening.
- Assess barriers, such as cost and possible concerns about screening.
- Recommend a different screening if a member refuses or can't tolerate a colonoscopy. Member refusal will not make them ineligible for this measure.
- Provide iFOBT/FIT test kits to be given to members during office visits. Members can then collect the sample at home and send the specimen and requisition form directly to the laboratory services vendor in a post-paid envelope. There are two types of acceptable FOBT tests: guaiac (gFOBT) and immunochemical (iFOBT).
- Digital Rectal Exams (DRE) or FOBT test performed in the office setting will not meet criteria.

Quality score improvement tips

- Use your EMR system alerts to inform the practice of screening gaps.
- Document the month, year and type of screening in the medical record. Documenting that the patient is "up to date" will not meet criteria.
- Update and document the member's history annually, including the type and date of colorectal cancer screening tests, history of total colectomy and any history of colon cancer.

Exclusions

- Members who used hospice services or elected to use a hospice benefit anytime during the measurement period.

- Members who died any time during the measurement period.
- Members who had colorectal cancer any time during the member’s history through December 31 of the measurement year.
- Members who had a total colectomy any time during the member’s history through December 31 of the measurement period.
- Medicare members 66 years of age and older by the end of the measurement period who meet either of the following:
 - Enrolled in an institutional SNP (I-SNP) any time during the measurement period.
 - Living long-term in an institution any time during the measurement period.
- Members 66 years of age and older by the end of the measurement period with both frailty and advanced illness. Members must meet both frailty and advanced illness criteria to be excluded:
 - Frailty – At least two indications of frailty with different dates of service any time during the measurement period.
 - Advanced illness – Either of the following any time during the measurement period or the year prior to the measurement period:
 - Advanced illness on at least two different dates of service.
 - Dispensed dementia medication (Donepezil, Donepezil-memantine, galantamine, rivastigmine or memantine).
- Members who received palliative care or had an encounter for palliative care any time during the measurement period.

Numerator codes

There is a large list of approved NCQA codes used to identify services included in this measure. The following are the approved codes. For more information, please refer to the American Academy of Professional Coders (AAPC). CPT II codes can be accepted as supplemental data, reducing the need for chart collection and review during the HEDIS hybrid season.

CODES		DESCRIPTIONS
CPT	44388, 44389, 44390, 44391, 44392, 44394, 44401, 44402, 44403, 44404, 44405, 44406, 44407, 44408, 45378, 45379, 45380, 45381, 45382, 45384, 45385, 45386, 45388, 45389, 45390, 45391, 45392, 45393, 45398	Colonoscopy
CPT	45330, 45331, 45332, 45333, 45334, 45337, 45338, 45340, 45341, 45342, 45346, 45347, 45349, 45350	Flexible Sigmoidoscopy
CPT	74261, 74261, 74263	CT Colonography
CPT	82270 (g FOBT), 82274 (iFOBT, , FIT)	FOBT
CPT	81528	FIT-DNA (Cologuard)
HCPCS	G0105, G0121	Colonoscopy
HCPCS	G0104	Flexible sigmoidoscopy
HCPCS	G0328	FOBT

ICD 10	Z12.11	Encounter for screening for malignant neoplasm of colon.
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How WellSense can help

HEDIS tip sheets are designed to help WellSense providers improve and report the quality of care delivered to WellSense members across key metrics.

If you have questions around HEDIS documentation and quality measures, please email the Quality Team at WS_Quality_Dept@wellsense.org.