



One of a series of tip sheets that look at key Healthcare Effectiveness Data and Information Set measures

## Breast cancer screening

This measure examines the percentage of women 50 to 74 years old who had a mammogram in the past two years.

### Improving HEDIS® scores\*

- **Order** routine mammograms at least once every 24 months for all women 50 to 74 years old. Depending on risk factors, mammograms may be administered more frequently.
- **Assure** that results are in the chart. This can help to determine if patients have followed through with testing. You only receive credit for completed tests.
- **Develop** a call-back system to remind patients who are due for screening exams.
- **Educate** patients on the importance of routine screening and remind patients that preventive screenings are now covered under health care reform.

### Exclusions

Members with history of bilateral mastectomy

### Did you know?

- *Breast cancer is still the leading cause of cancer in women, with one in eight women being diagnosed at some point in their lifetime.*
- *The greatest risk factor for breast cancer is age.*

#### Modifiable risk factors include:

- *Alcohol use*
- *Physical inactivity*

#### Also, after menopause:

- *More than five years use of combined estrogen progestin hormone therapy*
- *Overweight or obese*

## Tip:

Consider sending a reminder card to all eligible women with information about mammography and the importance of routine screening.

*\*HEDIS, which stands for Healthcare Effectiveness Data and Information Set, is a registered trademark of the National Committee for Quality Assurance.*