



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

## Cervical cancer screening

This measure examines the percentage of women 21 to 64 years old who had cervical cancer screening using either of these criteria:

- 21 to 64 years old: Cytology every three years **OR**
- 30 to 64 years old: Cervical cytology and HPV co-testing on same date of service every five years

### Improving HEDIS® scores\*

- Complete testing following one of the criteria listed above.
- Develop a call-back system to remind patients who are due for screening exams.
- Educate patients on the importance of routine screening and remind them that preventive screenings are covered under health care reform.
- Request patient information from specialists for your patients who state that they've had testing done with their OB/GYN.
- Assure that the chart includes documentation of testing and results.

**Exclusions:** History of complete, total or radical hysterectomy with no residual cervix, cervical agenesis or acquired absence of cervix.

### Did you know?

- Cervical cancer is frequently associated with HPV infection but not every woman who is affected will develop cancer.
- Cervical cancer is highly treatable when localized, with five-year survival rates of 91 percent compared to 16 percent once it has spread.
- Screening is important for early detection of this slow-growing cancer that otherwise has few symptoms.
- Smoking increases the risk of developing cancer.

## Tip:

Documentation must include the date the test was performed and the results. If a patient has had a hysterectomy, be sure to document it in the chart along with notation of no residual cervix for patients to whom this applies. You can also submit the appropriate code to exclude the patient from this measure. Alternatively, you can document a hysterectomy in combination with either a vaginal pap smear or documentation that the patient no longer needs pap tests/cervical cancer screening to exclude members from this measure.

ICD 10 codes that denote absence of cervix in the tip include: Q51.5, Z90.710, Z90.712

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