

2018 Clinical quality corner



One in a series of tip sheets that look at key Healthcare Effectiveness Data and Information Set measures, commonly referred to as HEDIS® measures.

Breast cancer screening

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

Improving HEDIS scores

- **Order** routine mammograms at least once every 24 months for all women ages 50 to 74. Depending on risk factors, mammograms may be administered more frequently.
- **Ensure** 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 covered under health care reform.

Note: The following are not considered appropriate methods for primary screening: breast ultrasound, MRI or biopsies. However, **3-D mammogram (tomosynthesis)** is now accepted.

Helpful HEDIS hints

The following are excluded from this measure:

- Members with history of bilateral mastectomy.
- Members in hospice
- Medicare patients 65 years or older and living in long term care institutional settings

Tip:

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

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