



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

## Flu vaccinations for adults ages 18-64

This measure examines the percentage of patients ages 18 to 64 who received an influenza vaccination during the prior flu season.

### Exclusions:

Exclude all patients with a history of a serious adverse or allergic reaction to an influenza vaccine at any time prior to or during the measurement year.

### Improving HEDIS scores

Proper documentation is critical:

- Provide clear documentation of vaccines you administered or documentation of vaccines received elsewhere, with dates and locations.
- Utilize the Michigan Care Improvement Registry, or MCIR, tracking system for all patients.
- Strongly recommend that patients get a flu vaccine and educate them about vaccine efficacy and safety.
- Influenza often leads to hospitalization for patients with chronic or underlying conditions. Consider flagging charts for high-risk patients and sending flu vaccine reminders by mail, email or text.
- Flu shot compliance is ascertained through the annual Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers and Systems, or CAHPS, survey. It depends on patient recollection of receiving the vaccination.

### Did you know?

- Influenza vaccinations prevented approximately 5.1 million influenza illnesses, 2.5 million influenza associated medical visits and 71,000 influenza-associated hospitalizations in the 2015-2016 flu season.
- Working adults younger than 65 years tend to have the lowest rate of influenza vaccination coverage.
- Annually since 2010, flu-associated deaths in the U.S. ranged from 12,000 to 56,000.

## Tip:

Make vaccine status assessment and discussion an integral part of every office visit.

## Helpful HEDIS hints

- Influenza vaccines are contraindicated in patients with a history of a serious adverse or allergic reaction to an influenza vaccine at any time.
- The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention modified their recommendations for flu vaccination of persons with an egg allergy for the 2017-2018 season as follows: Patients with a severe allergy to eggs can be provided the influenza vaccine with appropriate supervision by a health care provider.
- Use applicable coding to help close gaps.

This measure  
applies to  
commercial  
members only.

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R076924