



One in a series of tip sheets that look at key 2019 Healthcare Effectiveness Data and Information Set measures, commonly referred to as HEDIS® measures.

Breast Cancer Screening (BCS)

Effectiveness of Care HEDIS® Measure

HEDIS measure definition

Women ages 50 to 74 within the measurement year who had a mammogram to screen for breast cancer any time between October 1 (two years prior to the measurement year) through December 31 of the current year.

Exclusions from the HEDIS measure

Patients are excluded if they:

- Have a history of bilateral mastectomy or unilateral mastectomy with a bilateral.
- Are a patient in hospice or living in a long-term institutional setting any time in the measurement year.
- Have an advanced illness and frailty:
 - Medicare members ages 66 and older with advanced illness in the measurement year or the year prior to the measurement year **and** frailty in the measurement year are excluded when claims are received with advanced illness (includes dispensed dementia medication) and frailty codes. See the *Advanced illness and frailty guide* for more information.

Information patient medical records should include

- Date of the mammogram.
- Results of the mammogram, which can help determine if the patient followed through with testing.

Note that a unilateral mammogram can also be used to close the measure.

Information patient claims should include

If the patient met exclusion criteria, include the following ICD-10 diagnosis codes on the claim, as appropriate:

ICD-10 code	Description
Z90.11	Acquired absence of right breast and nipple
Z90.12	Acquired absence of left breast and nipple
Z90.13	Acquired absence of bilateral breasts and nipples

General tips

- Educate patients about the importance of routine screening:
 - Mammograms are the most effective method for detecting breast cancer when it is typically the most treatable in early stages.
 - 85 to 90 percent of cancers are detectable with high-quality equipment and well-trained radiologists.¹
 - Many women with breast cancer do not have symptoms; this is why regular breast cancer screening is so important.²
 - Remind patients that preventive breast cancer screenings are legally covered under U.S. health care reform and the Affordable Care Act.
- Explain that the recommended frequency of routine mammograms is at least once every 24 months for all women ages 50 to 74.
 - Depending on risk factors, mammograms (screening, diagnostic, film, digital or digital breast tomosynthesis) may be done more frequently.

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¹U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, National Quality Measures Clearing House, <https://www.qualitymeasures.ahrq.gov/summaries/summary/50438>*

²American Cancer Society, "Breast Cancer Early Detection and Diagnosis," <https://www.cancer.org/cancer/breast-cancer/screening-tests-and-early-detection.html>*

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