



One in a series of tip sheets about HEDIS® and other measures that contribute to star ratings of Medicare Advantage plans.

## Breast Cancer Screening (BCS)

Effectiveness of Care HEDIS® Measure

### Measure definition

Female patients ages 50–74 who had a mammogram to screen for breast cancer in the past two years.<sup>1</sup>

### Exclusions

Patients are excluded if they:

- Have a history of mastectomy on both the left and right side on the same or different dates of service.
- Received hospice care during the measurement year.
- Are age 66 and older with advanced illness and frailty (for additional definition information, see the *Advanced Illness and Frailty Guide*).

### Information that patient medical records should include

- Date the mammogram was performed.
- Documentation of mastectomy and date performed (if exact date is unknown, the year is acceptable).

### Information that patient claims should include

If the patient met exclusion criteria, include the following ICD-10-CM<sup>2</sup> diagnosis codes on the claim, as appropriate:

ICD-10-CM 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

### Tips for success

- Create a standing order to mail to patient for mammography.
- Provide a list of locations where mammogram screenings can be performed.

### Tips for talking with patients

Educate patients about the importance of routine screening:

- Many women with breast cancer do not have symptoms, which is why regular breast cancer screenings are so important.
- Mammograms are an effective method for detecting breast cancer in early stages, when it is most treatable.<sup>3</sup>
- The recommended frequency of routine mammograms is at least once every 24 months for all women ages 50–74. Depending on risk factors, mammograms may be done more frequently.

- The accuracy of mammography improves as women age and has an overall detection rate of about 85 percent.<sup>4</sup>

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<sup>1</sup>National Committee for Quality Assurance. *HEDIS® 2020 Volume 2 Technical Specifications for Health Plans* (2019), 83-86

<sup>2</sup>ICD-10-CM created by the National Center for Health Statistics, under authorization by the World Health Organization . WHO-copyright holder.

<sup>3</sup>American Cancer Society. <https://www.cancer.org/cancer/breast-cancer/screening-tests-and-early-detection.html>\*

<sup>4</sup>American Cancer Society. <https://www.cancer.org/cancer/breast-cancer/frequently-asked-questions-about-the-american-cancer-society-new-breast-cancer-screening-guideline.html>\*

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