Measure #113 (NQF 0034): Preventive Care and Screening: Colorectal Cancer Screening

2013 PQRS OPTIONS FOR INDIVIDUAL MEASURES:
CLAIMS, REGISTRY

DESCRIPTION:
Percentage of patients aged 50 through 75 years who received the appropriate colorectal cancer screening

INSTRUCTIONS:
This measure is to be reported a minimum of once per reporting period for patients seen during the reporting period. There is no diagnosis associated with this measure. Performance for this measure is not limited to the reporting period. This measure may be reported by clinicians who perform the quality actions described in the measure based on services provided and the measure-specific denominator coding.

Measure Reporting via Claims:
CPT or HCPCS codes and patient demographics are used to identify patients who are included in the measure's denominator. CPT Category II codes are used to report the numerator of the measure.

When reporting the measure via claims, submit the listed CPT or HCPCS codes, and the appropriate CPT Category II code OR the CPT Category II code with the modifier. The modifiers allowed for this measure are: 1P- medical reasons, 8P- reason not otherwise specified. All measure-specific coding should be reported on the claim(s) representing the eligible encounter.

Measure Reporting via Registry:
CPT or HCPCS codes and patient demographics are used to identify patients who are included in the measure’s denominator. The numerator options as described in the quality-data codes are used to report the numerator of the measure.

The quality-data codes listed do not need to be submitted for registry-based submissions; however, these codes may be submitted for those registries that utilize claims data.

DENOMINATOR:
All patients aged 50 through 75 years

Denominator Criteria (Eligible Cases):
Patients aged 50 through 75 years on date of encounter AND
Patient encounter during the reporting period (CPT or HCPCS): 99201, 99202, 99203, 99204, 99205, 99212, 99213, 99214, 99215, 99304, 99305, 99306, 99307, 99308, 99309, 99310, 99324, 99325, 99326, 99327, 99328, 99334, 99335, 99336, 99337, G0402

NUMERATOR:
Patients who had at least one or more screenings for colorectal cancer during or prior to the reporting period

Numerator Instructions: Patients are considered to have appropriate screening for colorectal cancer if any of the following are documented:
- Fecal occult blood test (FOBT) within the last 12 months
- Flexible sigmoidoscopy during the reporting period or the four years prior to the reporting period
- Colonoscopy during the reporting period or the nine years prior to the reporting period

Date: 12/19/2012
Version 7.2
CPT only copyright 2012 American Medical Association. All rights reserved.
NUMERATOR NOTE: Documentation in the medical record must include a note indicating the date when the colorectal cancer screening was performed. A result is not required if the documentation is clearly part of the "medical history" section of the record. If it is unclear whether the documentation is part of the medical history, then the result or finding must be present (this ensures that the screening was performed and not merely ordered).

Numerator Quality-Data Coding Options for Reporting Satisfactorily:  
**Colorectal Cancer Screening**  
CPT II 3017F: Colorectal cancer screening results documented and reviewed

**OR**

**Colorectal Cancer Screening not Performed for Medical Reasons**  
Append a modifier (1P) to CPT Category II code 3017F to report documented circumstances that appropriately exclude patients from the denominator.

3017F with 1P: Documentation of medical reason(s) for not performing a colorectal cancer screening

**OR**

**Colorectal Cancer Screening not Performed, Reason not Otherwise Specified**  
Append a reporting modifier (8P) to CPT Category II code 3017F to report circumstances when the action described in the numerator is not performed and the reason is not otherwise specified.

3017F with 8P: Colorectal cancer screening results were not documented and reviewed, reason not otherwise specified

RATIONALE:  
Colorectal cancer is the second leading cause of cancer-related death in the United States. There were an estimated 135,400 new cases and 56,700 deaths from the disease during 2001. Colorectal cancer (CRC) places significant economic burden on the society as well with treatment costs over $6.5 billion per year and, among malignancies, is second only to breast cancer at $6.6 billion per year. (Schrag, 1999)

Colorectal cancer screening can detect pre-malignant polyps and early stage cancers. Unlike other screening tests that only detect disease, colorectal cancer screening can guide removal of pre-malignant polyps, which in theory can prevent development of colon cancer. Three tests are currently recommended for screening: fecal occult blood testing (FOBT), flexible sigmoidoscopy, and colonoscopy.

CLINICAL RECOMMENDATION STATEMENTS:  
During the past FOBT screening to biennial FOBT screening, and found that annual screening resulted in greater reduction in colorectal cancer mortality. Two case control studies have provided evidence that sigmoidoscopy reduces colorectal cancer mortality (Selby et al., 1992; Newcomb et al., 1992). Approximately 75% of all colorectal cancers arise sporadically (Stephenson et al., 1991). Part of the effectiveness of colorectal cancer screening is mediated by the removal of the precursor lesion—an adenomatous polyp (Vogelstein et al., 1988). It has been shown that removal of polyps in a population can reduce the incidence of colorectal cancer (Winawer, 1993). Colorectal screening may also lower mortality by decade, compelling evidence has accumulated that systematic screening of the population can reduce mortality from colorectal cancer. Three randomized, controlled trials demonstrated that fecal occult blood testing (FOBT), followed by complete diagnostic evaluation of the colon for a positive test, reduced colorectal cancer mortality (Hardcastle et al., 1996; Mandel & Oken, 1998; Kronborg; 1996). One of these randomized trials (Mandel et al., 1993) compared annual allowing detection of cancer at earlier stages, when treatment is more effective (Kavanaugh, 1998).

The U.S. Preventive Services Task Force (USPSTF) published an updated recommendation for colorectal cancer screening in 2008. The guideline strongly recommends that clinicians screen men and women ages 50 to 75 years of age for colorectal cancer (A recommendation). The USPSTF recommends not screening adults age 85 and older due...
to possible harms (D recommendation). The appropriateness of colorectal cancer screening for men and women aged 76 to 85 years old should be considered on an individual basis (C recommendation). While the approved modalities vary for patients 50 to 75 years old, the USPSTF found there is insufficient evidence to assess the benefits and harms of computed tomographic colonography (CTC) and fecal DNA (fDNA) testing as screening modalities for colorectal cancer for all patients. (I statement)