
**2016 PQRS OPTIONS FOR INDIVIDUAL MEASURES:**

**CLAIMS, REGISTRY**

**DESCRIPTION:**
Percentage of patients aged 2 years and older with a diagnosis of AOE who were not prescribed systemic antimicrobial therapy

**INSTRUCTIONS:**
This measure is to be reported once for each occurrence of AOE during the reporting period. Each unique occurrence is defined as a 30-day period from onset of AOE. Claims data will be analyzed to determine unique occurrences. If multiple claims are submitted within that 30-day period, only one instance of reporting will be counted. This measure may be reported by clinicians who perform the quality actions described in the measure based on the services provided and the measure-specific denominator coding.

Clinicians who report on this measure may also find Measure #91: Acute Otitis Externa: Topical Therapy to be clinically relevant. The measure developer intended for PQRS measures #91: Acute Otitis Externa: Topical Therapy and measure #93: Acute Otitis Externa: Systemic Antimicrobial Therapy – Avoidance of Inappropriate Use to be paired measures, as they can both be implemented to measure care provided to patients diagnosed with diffuse, uncomplicated AOE.

**Measure Reporting via Claims:**
ICD-10-CM diagnosis codes, CPT 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 appropriate ICD-10-CM diagnosis codes, CPT codes, and the appropriate CPT Category II code OR the CPT Category II code with the modifier. The modifier allowed for this measure is: 1P- medical reasons. All measure-specific coding should be reported on the claim(s) representing the eligible encounter.

**Measure Reporting via Registry:**
ICD-10-CM diagnosis codes, CPT codes, and patient demographics are used to identify patients who are included in the measure’s denominator. The listed numerator options 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 2 years and older with a diagnosis of AOE

**Denominator Criteria (Eligible Cases):**
Patients aged ≥ 2 years on date of encounter

**AND**

**Diagnosis for AOE (ICD-10-CM):**
H60.00, H60.01, H60.02, H60.03, H60.10, H60.11, H60.12, H60.13, H60.311, H60.312, H60.313, H60.319, H60.321, H60.322, H60.323, H60.329, H60.331, H60.332, H60.333, H60.339, H60.391, H60.392, H60.393, H60.399, H60.501, H60.502, H60.503, H60.509, H60.511, H60.512, H60.513, H60.519, H60.521, H60.522, H60.523, H60.529, H60.531, H60.532, H60.533, H60.539, H60.541, H60.542, H60.543, H60.549, H60.551, H60.552, H60.553, H60.559, H60.591, H60.592, H60.593, H60.599, H61.90, H61.91, H61.92, H61.93, H62.40, H62.41, H62.42, H62.43, H62.8x1, H62.8x2, H62.8x3, H62.8x9

**AND**
Patient encounter during the reporting period (CPT): 99201, 99202, 99203, 99204, 99205, 99212, 99213, 99214, 99215, 99281, 99282, 99283, 99284, 99285, 99304, 99305, 99306, 99307, 99308, 99309, 99310, 99324, 99325, 99326, 99327, 99328, 99334, 99335, 99336, 99337, 99338, 99339, 99340, 99341, 99342, 99343, 99344, 99345, 99346, 99347, 99348, 99349, 99350

NUMERATOR:
Patients who were not prescribed systemic antimicrobial therapy

Numerator Instructions: For performance, the measure will be calculated as the number of patients for whom systemic antimicrobial therapy was not prescribed over the number of patients in the denominator (patients aged 2 years and older with acute otitis externa). A higher score indicates appropriate treatment of patients with AOE (e.g., the proportion for whom systemic antimicrobials were not prescribed).

Numerator Quality-Data Coding Options for Reporting Satisfactorily:
Systemic Antimicrobial Therapy not Prescribed
Performance Met: CPT II 4132F: Systemic antimicrobial therapy not prescribed

OR
Systemic Antimicrobial Therapy Prescribed for Medical Reasons
Append a modifier (1P) to CPT Category II code 4131F to report documented circumstances that appropriately exclude patients from the denominator
Medical Performance Exclusion: 4131F with 1P: Documentation of medical reason(s) for prescribing systemic antimicrobial therapy (eg, coexisting diabetes, immune deficiency)

OR
Systemic Antimicrobial Therapy Prescribed
Performance Not Met: CPT II 4131F: Systemic antimicrobial therapy prescribed

RATIONALE:
Despite their limited utility, about 20-40 percent of patients with AOE receive oral antibiotics, often in addition to topical therapy. “There are no data on the efficacy of systemic therapy using appropriate antibacterials and stratified by severity of the infection. Moreover, orally administered antibiotics have significant adverse effects that include rashes, vomiting, diarrhea, allergic reactions, altered nasopharyngeal flora, and development of bacterial resistance.” The use of systemic antimicrobial therapy to treat AOE should be limited only to those clinical situations in which it is indicated.

CLINICAL RECOMMENDATION STATEMENTS:
Clinicians should not prescribe systemic antimicrobials as initial therapy for diffuse, uncomplicated AOE unless there is extension outside the ear canal or the presence of specific host factors that would indicate a need for systemic therapy.

Strong recommendation based on randomized controlled trials with minor limitations and a preponderance of benefit over harm. [Aggregate evidence quality – Grade B] (AAO-HNSF, 2014)

COPYRIGHT:
The Measures are not clinical guidelines, do not establish a standard of medical care, and have not been tested for all potential applications.

The Measures, while copyrighted, can be reproduced and distributed, without modification, for noncommercial purposes, eg, use by health care providers in connection with their practices. Commercial use is defined as the sale, license, or distribution of the Measures for commercial gain, or incorporation of the Measures into a product or service that is sold, licensed or distributed for commercial gain.
Commercial uses of the Measures require a license agreement between the user and the American Medical Association (AMA), [on behalf of the Physician Consortium for Performance Improvement® (PCPI®)] or American Academy of Otolaryngology – Head and Neck Surgery Foundation (AAO-HNSF). Neither the AMA, AAO-HNSF, PCPI, nor its members shall be responsible for any use of the Measures.

The AMA’s and PCPI’s significant past efforts and contributions to the development and updating of the Measures is acknowledged. AAO-HNSF is solely responsible for the review and enhancement (“Maintenance”) of the Measures as of August 14, 2014.

AAO-HNSF encourages use of the Measures by other health care professionals, where appropriate.

THE MEASURES AND SPECIFICATIONS ARE PROVIDED “AS IS” WITHOUT WARRANTY OF ANY KIND.


Limited proprietary coding is contained in the Measure specifications for convenience. Users of the proprietary code sets should obtain all necessary licenses from the owners of these code sets. The AMA, AAO-HNSF, the PCPI and its members disclaim all liability for use or accuracy of any Current Procedural Terminology (CPT®) or other coding contained in the specifications.

2016 Claims/Registry Individual Measure Flow
PQRS #93 NQF # 0654: Acute Otitis Externa (AOE): Systemic Antimicrobial Therapy – Avoidance of Inappropriate Use

Start

Denominator

Patient Age at Date of Service ≥ 2 Years

No

Not Included in Eligible Population/Denominator

Yes

Diagnosis of AOE as Listed in Denominator*

No

Encounter as Listed in Denominator* (1/1/2015 thru 12/31/2015)

No

Include in Eligible Population/Denominator (8 episodes)

Yes

Numerator

Systemic Antimicrobial Therapy Not Prescribed

Yes

Reporting Met + Performance Met 4132F or equivalent (4 episodes)

No

Systemic Antimicrobial Therapy Prescribed for Medical Reason

Yes

Reporting Met + Performance Exclusion 4131F-1P or equivalent (1 episode)

No

Systemic Antimicrobial Therapy Prescribed

Yes

Reporting Met + Performance Not Met 4131F or equivalent (2 episodes)

Reporting Not Met Quality-Data Code or equivalent not reported (1 episode)

SAMPLE CALCULATIONS:

Reporting Rate=

Performance Met (a=4 episodes) + Performance Exclusion (b=1 episode) + Performance Not Met (c=2 episodes) = 7 episodes = 87.50%

Eligible Population / Denominator (d=8 episodes) = 8 episodes

Performance Rate=

Reporting Numerator (7 episodes) – Performance Exclusion (b=1 episode) = 6 episodes

*See the posted Measure Specification for specific coding and instructions to report this measure.

NOTE: Reporting Frequency: Episode

v2
2016 Claims/Registry Individual Measure Flow
PQRS #93 NQF # 0654: Acute Otitis Externa (AOE): Systemic Antimicrobial Therapy – Avoidance of Inappropriate Use

Please refer to the specific section of the Measure Specification to identify the denominator and numerator information for use in reporting this Individual Measure.

1. Start with Denominator
2. Check Patient Age:
   a. If the Age is greater than or equal to 2 years of age on Date of Service and equals No during the measurement period, do not include in Eligible Patient Population. Stop Processing.
   b. If the Age is greater than or equal to 2 years of age on Date of Service and equals Yes during the measurement period, proceed to check Patient Diagnosis.
3. Check Patient Diagnosis:
   a. If Diagnosis of AOE as Listed in the Denominator equals No, do not include in Eligible Patient Population. Stop Processing.
   b. If Diagnosis of AOE as Listed in the Denominator equals Yes, proceed to check Encounter Performed.
4. Check Encounter Performed:
   a. If Encounter as Listed in the Denominator equals No, do not include in Eligible Patient Population. Stop Processing.
   b. If Encounter as Listed in the Denominator equals Yes, include in the Eligible population.
5. Denominator Population
   a. Denominator population is all Eligible Patients in the denominator. Denominator is represented as Denominator in the Sample Calculation listed at the end of this document. Letter d equals 8 episodes in the sample calculation.
6. Start Numerator
7. Check Systemic Antimicrobial Therapy Not Prescribed:
   a. If Systemic Antimicrobial Therapy Not Prescribed equals Yes, include in Reporting Met and Performance Met.
   b. Reporting Met and Performance Met letter is represented in the Reporting Rate and Performance Rate in the Sample Calculation listed at the end of this document. Letter a equals 4 episodes in Sample Calculation.
   c. If Systemic Antimicrobial Therapy Not Prescribed equals No, proceed to Systemic Antimicrobial Therapy Prescribed for Medical Reason.
8. Check Systemic Antimicrobial Therapy Prescribed for Medical Reason:
   a. If Systemic Antimicrobial Therapy Prescribed for Medical Reason equals Yes, include in Reporting Met and Performance Exclusion.
b. Reporting Met and Performance Exclusion letter is represented in the Reporting Rate in the Sample Calculation listed at the end of this document. Letter b equals 1 episode in the Sample Calculation.

c. If Systemic Antimicrobial Therapy Prescribed for Medical Reason equals No, proceed to Systemic Antimicrobial Therapy Prescribed.

9. Check Systemic Antimicrobial Therapy Prescribed:

a. If Systemic Antimicrobial Therapy Prescribed equals Yes, include in the Reporting Met and Performance Not Met.

b. Reporting Met and Performance Not Met letter is represented in the Reporting Rate in the Sample Calculation listed at the end of this document. Letter c equals 2 episodes in the Sample Calculation.

c. If Systemic Antimicrobial Therapy Prescribed equals No, proceed to Reporting Not Met.

10. Check Reporting Not Met:

a. If Reporting Not Met equals No, Quality Data Code or equivalent not reported. 1 episode has been subtracted from the reporting numerator in the sample calculation.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sampling Calculations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reporting Rate=</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Performance Met (a=4 episodes) + Performance Exclusion (b=1 episode) + Performance Not Met (c=2 episodes) = 7 episodes = 87.50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eligible Population / Denominator (d=8 episodes) = 8 episodes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Performance Rate=</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reporting numerator (7 episodes) / Performance Met (a=4 episodes) = 4 episodes = 66.67%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reporting numerator (7 episodes) - Performance Exclusion (b=1 episode) = 6 episodes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>