



Appropriate Testing for Pharyngitis (CWP)

HEDIS® Measurement Year 2020 & 2021 Measures

Measure Description: The percentage of 3 years of age and older who were diagnosed with pharyngitis, dispensed an antibiotic and received a group A streptococcus strep test for the episode. A higher rate represents better performance i.e., appropriate testing.

Member can either be seen in an outpatient setting, telephone, online assessment, observation, or ED visit. Observation or ED visits that result in inpatient stays are not included in the measure.

Eligible Population

Ages: Members 3 years of age and older as of December 31 of the measurement year.

Strategies for Improvement

- Utilize NCQA coding tips to actively reflect care rendered.
- Instruct parents on difference between viral and bacterial infections.
- Educate parents on how antibiotics are not effective for viral infections.
- Provide tips for managing viral infections and their symptoms such as OTC medications, aromatherapy and steam baths, etc.
- Test for group A streptococcus strep prior to prescribing antibiotics.
- Educate parent on the importance of finishing the entire course of the antibiotic as prescribed, even if the patient starts to feel better.
- Educate parents on “super bugs” and antibiotic resistance from overuse of antibiotics.

Numerator Codes

The measure Appropriate Testing for Children with Pharyngitis CWP contains a large list of approved NCQA codes used to identify the service or condition included in the measure.

The following are just a few of the approved codes. For a complete list please refer to the NCQA website at [NCQA.org](https://www.ncqa.org).

Description	Codes
Pharyngitis	J02.0; J02.8; J02.9; J03.00; J03.01

Measure Adherence

The antibiotic medications the NCQA lists in the HEDIS specifications for the CWP measure are below. This is a general list and should not replace the advice or care you provide your patients regarding what is optimal to meet their healthcare needs.

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Antibiotic Medications

Description	Prescription
Aminopenicillins	Amoxicillin Ampicillin
Beta-lactamase inhibitors	Amoxicillin-clavulanate
First generation cephalosporins	Cefadroxil Cefazolin Cephalexin
Folate antagonist	Trimethoprim
Lincomycin derivatives	Clindamycin
Macrolides	Azithromycin Clarithromycin Erythromycin Erythromycin ethylsuccinate Erythromycin lactobionate Erythromycin stearate
Natural penicillins	Penicillin G potassium Penicillin G sodium Penicillin V potassium Penicillin G benzathine
Penicillinase-resistant penicillins	Dicloxacillin
Quinolones	Ciprofloxacin Levofloxacin Moxifloxacin Ofloxacin
Second generation cephalosporins	Cefaclor Cefprozil Cefuroxime
Sulfonamides	Sulfamethoxazole-trimethoprim
Tetracyclines	Doxycycline Minocycline Tetracycline
Third-generation cephalosporins	Cefdinir Cefixime Cefpodoxime Ceftibuten Cefditoren Ceftriaxone