HEDIS® News You Can Use

Let's Improve Appropriate Use of Antibiotics Together!

Appropriate Treatment for Upper Respiratory Infection (URI)

ℹ️ Measure Requirements:

Percentage of members 3 months of age and older who were given a diagnosis of upper respiratory infection and were not dispensed an antibiotic prescription.

• Higher rate indicates appropriate treatment (i.e. the proportion for whom antibiotics were NOT prescribed).

Avoidance of Antibiotic Treatment in Adults With Acute Bronchitis/ Bronchiolitis (AAB)

ℹ️ Measure Requirements:

Members 3 months of age and older with a diagnosis of acute bronchitis/bronchiolitis who were not dispensed an antibiotic prescription.

• Higher rate indicates appropriate treatment of adults with Acute Bronchitis (i.e. the proportion for whom antibiotics were NOT prescribed).

Appropriate Testing for Pharyngitis (CWP)

ℹ️ Measure Requirements:

Percentage of members 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.

📇 Coding Information

Group A Strep Test CPT:
- 87070
- 87071
- 87081
- 87430
- 87650-87652
- 87880

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Common Reasons for Gaps in Care:

- Receiving a script for an antibiotic for a viral infection, without a concurrent diagnosis that would require an antibiotic
- CWP - Receiving an antibiotic without a strep test/confirmed strep dx and filling the prescription when not necessary
- Concurrent diagnosis/diagnoses not coded on a claim that require an antibiotic (i.e. sinusitis, otitis media, etc.)

HEDIS Lunch and Learn Webinar Series

It's HEDIS medical record abstraction season! We know how busy your office will be! We will pause the Lunch and Learn Webinars to give you a break and will resume June 2021. Be on the lookout for an e-mail invitation, and be sure to share with your co-workers. You can find the most recent Lunch and Learn information on our website:

https://www.aetnabetterhealth.com/westvirginia/providers/hedis/hedis-webinars

Great Resources

https://www.cdc.gov/antibiotic-use/community/for-hcp/outpatient-hcp/adult-treatment-rec.html

https://www.cdc.gov/antibiotic-use/community/for-hcp/outpatient-hcp/pediatric-treatment-rec.html

https://www.cdc.gov/groupastrep/diseases-hcp/strep-throat.html

Patients trust you:

Patients consider you their most trusted source of information when it comes to their health. When talking to patients, encourage and allow time for questions.

Here for you!

Thank you for the care you provide to our members!
For questions or for more information, please contact Shelly Rouse, ABHWV Quality HEDIS Manager at
ABHWVHEDIS@aetna.com or **304-348-2923**.

Best Practices

· Educate members and parents regarding symptomatic treatment and when to contact the PCP.

· Educate regarding bacterial versus viral infections. Educate that an antibiotic is not necessary for viral infections, and if rapid strep test and/or culture is negative.

· Educate and recommend symptomatic/conservative treatments such as OTC medicine and comfort measures.

· If there are no transportation issues, consider not giving parent/guardian a prescription and instead have them call your office in three days if child is not feeling better.

· Perform a group A Strep Test on all individuals treated with an antibiotic for pharyngitis.

· Ensure the appropriate use of antibiotics for individuals with acute bronchitis/bronchiolitis will help them avoid harmful side-effects and possible resistance to antibiotics over time.

· Be sure to code for the strep test when submitting the claim.

· Be sure to code for ALL appropriate diagnoses relevant to the visit.

· Code for concurrent bacterial infections/diagnoses.

· FQHCs/ RHCs – When billing a T1015 encounter code, it is essential to also list on the claim the actual CPT/ HCPCS procedures codes to identify the services included in the encounter.

· Use appropriate testing/symptom documentation to correlate with antibiotic prescription.

· If there is a competing diagnosis requiring antibiotics, be sure documentation and coding accurately reflect diagnosis/diagnoses.

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