

HEDIS® Tips: Colorectal Cancer Screening (COL)

MEASURE DESCRIPTION

The percentage of patients 50-75 years of age who had one of the following screenings for colorectal cancer screening:

- Fecal Occult Blood Test: gFOBT or iFOBT (or FIT) with required number of samples for each test during the measurement year, or
- Flexible sigmoidoscopy during the measurement year or the four years prior to the measurement year, or
- Colonoscopy during the measurement year or the nine years prior to the measurement year.
- CT colonography during the measurement year or the four years prior to the measurement year.
- FIT-DNA test during the measurement year or the two years prior to the measurement year.

Required Exclusion: Patients age 66 and older as of December 31 of the measurement year who are enrolled in an Institutional Special Needs Plan or live in a long-term institution any time during the measurement year, and had a diagnosis of frailty and advanced illness during the measurement year.

CODES INCLUDED IN THE CURRENT HEDIS MEASURE

Codes to Identify Colorectal Cancer Screening

Description	Codes	
FIT-DNA	CPT®: 81528	HCPCS: G0464
FOBT	CPT®: 82270, 82274	HCPCS: G0328
Flexible Sigmoidoscopy	CPT®: 45330-45335, 45337-45342, 45345-45347, 45349, 45350	HCPCS: G0104
Colonoscopy	CPT®: 44388-44394, 44397, 44401-44408, 45355, 45378-45393, 45398	HCPCS: G0105, G0121
CT Colonography	CPT®: 74261, 74262, 74263	

Codes to Identify Optional Exclusions

Description	Codes
Colorectal Cancer	HCPCS: G0213-G0215, G0231 ICD-10 CM: C18.0-C18.9, C19, C20, C21.2, C21.8, C78.5, Z85.038, Z85.048
Total Colectomy	CPT®: 44150-44153, 44155-44158, 44210-44212 ICD-10 PCS: 0DTE0ZZ, 0DTE4ZZ, 0DTE7ZZ, 0DTE8ZZ

HOW TO IMPROVE HEDIS SCORES

- Update patient history annually regarding colorectal cancer screening (test done and a date).
- Encourage patients who are resistant to having a colonoscopy to have a stool test that they can complete at home (either gFOBT or iFOBT).
- Communicate that the iFOBT/FIT has fewer dietary restrictions and samples.
- Use standing orders and empower office staff to distribute FOBT or FIT kits to patients who need colorectal cancer screening or prepare referral for colonoscopy. Follow-up with patients.
- Document patients with ileostomies, which implies colon removal (exclusion), and patients with a history of colon cancer (more and more frequent).

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