

HEDIS® Tips:

Disease Modifying Anti-Rheumatic Drug Therapy (DMARD) for Rheumatoid Arthritis (ART)

MEASURE DESCRIPTION

Patients 18 years of age and older who were diagnosed with rheumatoid arthritis (RA) and who were dispensed at least one DMARD prescription during the measurement year.

DMARDs:

Description	Prescription
5-Aminosalicyclates	Sulfasalazine
Alkylating agents	Cyclophosphamide
Aminoquinolines	Hydroxychloroquine
Anti-rheumatics	Auranofin, Leflunomide, Methotrexate, Penicillamine
Immunomodulators	Abatacept, Adalimumab, Anakinra, Certolizumab, Certolizumab pegol, Etanercept, Golimumab, Infliximab, Rituximab, Tocilizumab
Immunosuppressive agents	Azathioprine, Cyclosporine, Mycophenolate
Janus kinase (JAK) inhibitor	Tofacitinib
Tetracyclines	Minocycline

USING CORRECT BILLING CODES

Codes to Identify Rheumatoid Arthritis

Description	Codes
Rheumatoid Arthritis	ICD-10: M05, M06

Codes to Identify DMARD

Description	Codes
DMARD	HCPCS: J0129, J0135, J0717, J1438, J1600, J1602, J1745, J3262, J7502, J7515-J7518, J9250, J9260, J9310, Q5102, Q5103, Q5104

HOW TO IMPROVE HEDIS SCORES

- ☐ Confirm RA versus osteoarthritis (OA) or joint pain.
- ☐ Prescribe DMARDs when diagnosing rheumatoid arthritis in your patients.
- ☐ Refer to current American College of Rheumatology standards/guidelines.
- ☐ Refer patients to network rheumatologists as appropriate for consultation and/or co-management.
- ☐ Audit a sample of charts of members identified as having rheumatoid arthritis to assess accuracy of coding.
 - Usual ratio of OA:RA = 9:1
 - Aggressive risk adjustment can overstate RA vs. OA.