

HEDIS® Tips:

Medication Management for People with Asthma (MMA)

MEASURE DESCRIPTION

The percentage of patients 5–64 years of age during the measurement year who were identified as having persistent asthma and were dispensed appropriate medications that they remained on during the treatment period. Two rates are reported:

1. The percentage of patients who remained on an asthma controller medication for at least 50% of their treatment period.
2. The percentage of patients who remained on an asthma controller medication for at least 75% of their treatment period.

Patients are in the measure if they met at least one of the following during both the measurement year and the year prior.

- At least one ED visit with asthma as the principal diagnosis.
- At least one acute inpatient claim/encounter, with asthma as the principal diagnosis.
- At least 4 outpatient or observation visits on different dates of service, with any diagnosis of asthma **and** at least 2 asthma medication dispensing events for any controller medication. Only 3 of the 4 visits may be a telehealth visit, phone visit, or an online assessment. Telehealth must be identified with a telehealth modifier.
- At least 4 asthma medication dispensing events for any controller medication or reliever medication.

USING CORRECT BILLING CODES

Codes to Identify Asthma

Description	*ICD-9 Codes	ICD-10 Codes
Asthma	493.00-493.02, 493.10-493.12, 493.81, 493.82, 493.90-493.92	
Mild Intermittent Asthma		J45.20 - J45.22
Mild Persistent Asthma		J45.30 - J45.32
Moderate Persistent Asthma		J45.40 - J45.42
Severe Persistent Asthma		J45.50 - J45.52
Other and Unspecified Asthma		J45.901, J45.902, J45.909, J45.990, J45.991, J45.998

*ICD-9 codes are included for historical purposes only and can no longer be used for billing.

Asthma Controller Medications

Asthma Controller Medications	Prescriptions
Antiasthmatic combinations	Dyphylline-guaifenesin, Guaifenesin-theophylline
Anti-interleukin-5	Mepolizumab, Reslizumab
Antibody inhibitor	Omalizumab
Inhaled steroid combinations	Budesonide-formoterol, Fluticasone-salmeterol, Fluticasone-vilanterol, Mometasone-formoterol
Inhaled corticosteroids	Beclomethasone, Budesonide, Ciclesonide, Flunisolide, Fluticasone CFC free, Mometasone
Leukotriene modifiers	Montelukast, Zafirlukast, Zileuton
Methylxanthines	Dyphylline, Theophylline

*Please refer to the Molina Healthcare Drug Formulary at www.molinahealthcare.com for asthma controller medications that may require prior authorization or step therapy.

HOW TO IMPROVE HEDIS SCORES

- Ensure proper coding to avoid coding asthma if not formally diagnosing asthma and only asthma-like symptoms were present. Ex: wheezing during viral upper respiratory infection and acute bronchitis is not “asthma.”
- Educate patients on use of asthma medications and importance of using asthma controller medications daily.
- Prescribe a long-term controller medication and provide reminders to your patients to fill controller medications.
- Remind Molina patients mail-order delivery is available
- Refer patients for health management interventions and coaching by contacting Health Care Services at your affiliated Molina Healthcare State plan.