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One in a series of tip sheets that look at key Healthcare Effectiveness Data and Information Set measures, commonly referred to as HEDIS[®] measures.

Breast Cancer Screening (BCS)

Effectiveness of Care HEDIS® Measure

Measurement definition

Female patients ages 52–74 who had a mammogram to screen for breast cancer any time on or between October 1 two years prior to the measurement year and December 31 of the measurement year.

Exclusions

Patients are excluded if they:

- Have a history of mastectomy on both the left and right side on the same or different dates of service.
- Received hospice care during the measurement year.
- Are age 66 and older with advanced illness and frailty (for additional definition information, see the Advanced Illness and Frailty Guide).
- Are deceased during the measurement year.
- Received palliative care during the measurement year.

Information that patient medical records must include

- Date the mammogram was performed and result.
- Documentation of mastectomy and date performed (if exact date is unknown, the year is acceptable).

Information that patient claims should include

If the patient met exclusion criteria, include the following ICD-10-CM¹ diagnosis codes on the claim, as appropriate:

ICD-10-CM code	Description
Z90.11	Acquired absence of right breast and nipple
Z90.12	Acquired absence of left breast and nipple
Z90.13	Acquired absence of bilateral breasts and nipples

Tips for success

- Review completed screening dates with patients at all visits.
 - Document all patient reported mammogram dates in the history and/or preventive service section of the medical record
- If the exact date of the last mammogram is unknown, avoid using words such as "approximate" or "about" when documenting. Instead, document the month/year or year alone.
- Create a standing order to mail to patient for mammography.
- Provide a list of locations where mammogram screenings can be performed.
- If telehealth, telephone or e-visits are used instead of face-to-face visits, discuss the need for breast cancer screening and mail a mammogram order with location of testing facility and phone number.

Tips for talking with patients

Educate patients about the importance of routine screening:

- Many women with breast cancer do not have symptoms, which is why regular breast cancer screenings are so important.
- Mammograms are an effective method for detecting breast cancer in early stages, when it is most treatable.²
- The recommended frequency of routine mammograms is at least once every 24 months for all women ages 50–74. Depending on risk factors, mammograms may be done more frequently.
- The accuracy of mammography improves as women age and has an overall detection rate of about 85 percent.³

³American Cancer Society. https://www.cancer.org/cancer/breast-cancer/frequently-asked-questions-about-the-american-cancer-society-new-breast-cancer-screening-guideline.html

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