



One in a series of tip sheets about HEDIS® and other measures that contribute to star ratings of Medicare Advantage plans.

Breast Cancer Screening (BCS)

Effectiveness of Care HEDIS® Measure

Measure definition

Female patients ages 52 to 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 should include

- Date the mammogram was performed.
- 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-CM 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

- 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.¹
- The recommended frequency of routine mammograms is at least once every 24 months for all women ages 50 to 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.²

¹American Cancer Society. <https://www.cancer.org/cancer/breast-cancer/screening-tests-and-early-detection.html>

²American Cancer Society. <https://www.cancer.org/cancer/breast-cancer/frequently-asked-questions-about-the-american-cancer-society-new-breast-cancer-screening-guideline.html>