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Breast Cancer Screening (BCS-E)¹

EFFECTIVENESS OF CARE HEDIS® MEASURE

Breast cancer is the second-most common cancer in American women. In 2021, it was estimated that approximately 30 percent of all new cancer diagnoses in women will be breast cancer.² Detecting breast cancer early is the most effective way to prevent death. The accuracy of mammography improves as individuals age.

Measure definition

The percentage of patients 50–74 years of age 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.

Note: To be eligible for this measure in 2025, the member must be continuously enrolled in Medicare Advantage as of 10/1/2023 through this measurement year.

Information that patient medical records should include:

- The date the mammogram was performed, which includes all types and methods of mammograms: screenings, diagnostics, films, and digital breast tomosynthesis. Do not count biopsies, breast ultrasounds or MRIs.
- Documentation of mastectomy and the date it was performed (if exact date is unknown, the year is acceptable).
- A breast thermogram **does not** meet criteria for this measure.

Coding information

This measure is being collected and reported through electronic clinical data systems (ECDS). ECDS is defined as a health plan that utilizes a network of interoperable data systems to better communicate member health information across various health care service providers.

For screenings, use the appropriate codes:

CPT® code ³	Description
77061-77063, 77065-77067	Mammography

For exclusions, use the appropriate codes:

ICD-10-CM® code ⁴	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 or h/o bilateral mastectomy
F64.1	Dual role transvestism
F64.2	Gender identity disorder of childhood

F64.8	Other gender identity disorders
F64.9	Gender identity disorder, unspecified
Z87.890	Personal history of sex reassignment

* Both Z90.11 and Z90.12 need to be billed on the same or different dates of service to be excluded.

Tips for success

- Discuss breast cancer screening during the patient's office visits.
- Create a standing order to mail to patient for mammography.
- Call the patient to assist them in setting up their mammogram if the patient does not schedule one on their own and the breast cancer screening is overdue.
- 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 screenings:

- Remind patients that mammograms are a covered preventive screening.
- Mammograms are an effective way to detect breast cancer in early stages when it is most treatable. Most women do not have symptoms of breast cancer, which makes screening even more important.
- 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. For women ages 75 and older, screening is suggested only if their life expectancy is at least ten years.

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.(if exact date is unknown, the year is acceptable)
- Gender-affirming chest surgery (CPT code 19318) AND a diagnosis of gender dysphoria any time during the patient's history.
- Received hospice or palliative care during the measurement year.
- Have Medicare and are 66 years of age or older who are enrolled in Institutional Special Needs Plan (I-SNP) or living long term in an institution any time 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.

¹HEDIS®, which stands for Healthcare Effectiveness Data and Information Set, is a registered trademark of the National Committee for Quality Assurance, or NCQA.

²Breast Cancer Facts. (2020). National Breast Cancer Foundation. <https://www.nationalbreastcancer.org/breast-cancer-facts>
American Cancer Society <https://www.cancer.org/cancer/breast-cancer/screening-tests-and-early-detection/american-cancer-society-recommendations-for-the-early-detection-of-breast-cancer.html>

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⁴ICD-10-CM created by the National Center for Health Statistics, under authorization by the World Health Organization (WHO) -copyright 2023

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