

Chlamydia Screening (CHL)

Learn how to improve your Healthcare Effectiveness Data and Information Set (HEDIS®) rates. This tip sheet gives key details about the Chlamydia Screening (CHL) measure, best practices and more resources.

<p>Measure</p>	<p>The percentage of women ages 16–24 who are identified as sexually active and who had at least one test for Chlamydia as of December 31 of the measurement year. Report two age stratifications and a total rate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 16–20 • 21–24 • Total
<p>Exclusions</p>	<p>Exclude patients who qualified for the denominator – a pregnancy test alone, and meets either of the following criteria. On the date of the pregnancy test or six days after, the patient:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Was prescribed isotretinoin. • Received an X-ray.
<p>Highlights</p>	<p>CHL can have no symptoms for several weeks.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Routine screening is key to detection. • Spreads through unprotected vaginal, anal or oral sex. • Symptoms can include vaginal discharge, a burning feeling when urinating and pain in the lower abdomen.
<p>Barriers</p>	<p>Patients may view a CHL screening as sensitive services. This can prevent talking with their doctor.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provider does not know a patient is sexually active to initiate talks. • Patient is not aware of screening guidelines to ask questions. • Parents go with children to doctor visits and may not know their child is sexually active. Parents then refuse the screening.
<p>Best practices</p>	<p>Yearly screening for sexually active women ages 24 and younger, and in older women who are at an increased risk for infection.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use pharmacy data, claims and encounters to identify sexually active women. • Screen patients who use birth control. • Talk about screening guidelines during annual checkups or other exams. • Share the value of a CHL screening.
<p>CPT codes</p>	<p>Use the appropriate CPT code when billing for CHL screenings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 87110 • 87270 • 87320 • 87490–87492 • 87810



Resources

- U.S. Preventive Services Task Force: www.uspreventiveservicestaskforce.org/Page/Document/RecommendationStatementFinal/chlamydia-and-gonorrhea-screening.
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: www.cdc.gov/std/chlamydia/default.htm.
- Center for Young Women’s Health: <https://youngwomenshealth.org/2012/11/20/chlamydia/>

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