

Breast Cancer Screening

Improve your HEDIS® rates by using this tip sheet for key details about the Breast Cancer Screening (BCS) measure, its codes and guidance for documentation.

Breast cancer is a common type of cancer in women in the United States.² To help reduce mortality rates, mammography is used as an effective screening tool for early detection of breast cancer.



Measure

The percentage of members who need screening, ages 50–74, who have had one or more mammograms any time on or between October 1 two years before the measurement year and December 31 of the measurement year³.

Exclusions

- Members who meet any of the following criteria during the measurement period:
 - Members who use hospice services or elect to use hospice benefits.
 - Members who died any time during the measurement year.
 - Members receiving palliative care.
 - Medicare members ages 66 and older enrolled in an institutional special needs plans (I-SNP) or living long term in an institution.
 - Members ages 66 and older with frailty and advanced illness.
- Members with bilateral mastectomy during the measurement year. Any of the following meet the criteria for bilateral mastectomy:
 - History of bilateral mastectomy.
 - Unilateral mastectomy with a bilateral modifier.
 - Unilateral mastectomy found in clinical data with a bilateral modifier.
- Any combination of codes that indicate a mastectomy on both the left and right side on the same or different dates of service:
 - Unilateral mastectomy with a left/right-side modifier.
 - Unilateral mastectomy found in clinical data with a left/right-side modifier.
 - Absence of the left/right breast.
 - Left/right unilateral mastectomy.

(continued)

¹ HEDIS – Healthcare Effectiveness Data and Information Set.

² American Cancer Society, 2022. Breast Cancer – What Are the Key Statistics about Breast Cancer. Retrieved from www.cancer.org/cancer/breast-cancer/about/how-common-is-breast-cancer.html. July 1, 2022.

³ NCQA. HEDIS 2023 Technical Specifications for Health Plans, Volume 2, Washington, D.C., 2022.

Exclusion codes

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Description	Codes
Bilateral mastectomy	ICD-10: OHTV0ZZ
Unilateral mastectomy with a bilateral modifier	CPT: 19180, 19200, 19220, 19240, 19303, 19304, 19305, 19306, 19307 Modifier: 50, LT, RT
History of bilateral mastectomy	ICD-10: Z90.13
Any combination of codes below that indicate a mastectomy on both the left and right side on the same or different dates of service.	
Unilateral mastectomy with left/right-side modifier	CPT: 19180, 19200, 19220, 19240, 19303, 19304, 19305, 19306, 19307 Modifier: LT, RT
Left unilateral mastectomy	ICD-10: OHTU0ZZ
Right unilateral mastectomy	ICD-10: OHTT0ZZ
Absence of left breast	ICD-10: Z90.12
Absence of right breast	ICD-10: Z90.11

Best practices

Mammography codes

- Note the date of the mammogram with proof of completion in the medical record to confirm screening was ordered and completed. Discuss the results or findings with the patient.
- All types and methods of mammograms (screening, diagnostic, film, digital, or digital breast tomosynthesis) meet the numerator compliance. Do not count biopsies, breast ultrasounds or MRIs.
- Refer patients to local mammography imaging centers. Follow up to confirm completion.
- Schedule mobile mammography events at clinics or during health fairs, etc.
- Educate patients on the importance of routine screening (at least once every 24 months). Remind patients that preventive screenings are covered under health care reform. Depending on risk factors, mammograms may be done more often.
- Discuss possible concerns or fears patients may have about the screening.
- Develop standing orders along with automated referrals (if applicable) for member ages 50–74.

CPT 77061, 77062, 77063, 77065, 77066, 77067