



California Physician Performance Initiative (CPPI)

Clinical Quality Measure Specifications 2009

Disease Modifying Anti-Rheumatic Drug Therapy for Rheumatoid Arthritis (ART) (updated 8/14/09)

Measure:

The percentage of patients 18 years and older who were diagnosed with rheumatoid arthritis and who received at least one ambulatory prescription for a disease modifying anti-rheumatic drug (DMARD) during October 1, 2007 through September 30, 2008.

Reasons for this measure:

Rheumatoid arthritis is a chronic autoimmune disorder often characterized by progressive joint destruction and multisystem involvement. It affects approximately 2.5 million Americans, and women disproportionately. There is no cure; consequently, the goal of treatment is to slow the progression of disease and thereby delay or prevent joint destruction, relieve pain and maintain functional capacity.

This measure assesses whether patients diagnosed with rheumatoid arthritis (RA) have been prescribed a disease modifying anti-rheumatic drug (DMARD). DMARDs modify the disease course of rheumatoid arthritis through reduction of the progression of bony erosions, lessening of inflammation and long-term structural damage. The utilization of DMARDs is also expected to provide improvement in functional status.

Eligible Population:

Patients 18 years and older as of September 30, 2008 who diagnosed with rheumatoid arthritis.

A patient must have had two face-to-face physician encounters with different dates of service in an outpatient or nonacute inpatient setting on or between October 1, 2007 through September 30, 2008 of the measurement year with any diagnosis of rheumatoid arthritis. A diagnosis code to identify rheumatoid arthritis must be in conjunction with a visit type code.

Codes to Identify Rheumatoid Arthritis:

Description	ICD-9-CM Diagnosis
Rheumatoid arthritis	714.0, 714.1, 714.2, 714.81

Codes to Identify Visit Type:

Description	CPT	UB Revenue
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Outpatient	99201-99205, 99211-99215, 99241-99245, 99341-99345, 99347-99350, 99384-99387, 99394-99397, 99401-99404, 99411, 99412, 99420, 99429, 99455, 99456	051x, 0520-0523, 0526-0529, 057x-059x, 077x, 0982, 0983
Nonacute inpatient	99301-99313, 99315, 99316, 99318, 99321-99328, 99331-99337	0118, 0128, 0138, 0148, 0158, 019x, 0524, 0525, 055x, 066x

Continuous Enrollment in Health Plan:

The measurement year (October 1, 2007 through September 30, 2008). No more than one gap in enrollment of up to 45 days during the measurement year.

Exclusions:

Patients diagnosed with HIV. Patients who have a diagnosis code for pregnancy during the measurement year (October 1, 2007 through September 30, 2008).

Codes to Identify Exclusions:

Description	ICD-9-CM Diagnosis
Human immunodeficiency virus	042, V08
Pregnancy	630-677, V22, V23, V28

Numerator Event:

Members who had at least one ambulatory prescription dispensed for a disease modifying anti-rheumatic drug (DMARD) during the measurement year. The DMARDs included in this measure are as follows:

DMARDs:

Description	Prescription	J Codes
5-Aminosalicylates	• sulfasalazine	
Alkylating agents	• cyclophosphamide	
Aminoquinolines	• hydroxychloroquine	
Anti-rheumatics	• auranofin • gold sodium thiomalate • aurothioglucose • leflunomide	J1600, J9250, J9260
Immunomodulators	• abatacept • anakinra • adalimumab • etanercept	J0129, J0135, J1438, J1745
Immunosuppressive agents	• azathioprine • cyclosporine	J7502, J7515, J7516
Tetracyclines	• minocycline	

Note: NCQA has provided a comprehensive list of medications and NDC codes on its Web site (www.ncqa.org).

Designated Specialties: Family Practice, internal medicine, allergy/immunology and rheumatology.

Measure Definition Source: NCQA HEDIS 2009.

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