

Colorectal Cancer Screening (COL-E)

Description of Measure

Percentage of patients 45 – 75 years of age as of Dec. 31, measurement year (MY), as of who had appropriate screening for colorectal cancer: colonoscopy, CT colonography, flexible sigmoidoscopy, FIT-DNA, or fecal occult blood test (FOBT).¹¹

Documentation

Screening Test	Frequency
Fecal Occult Blood (FOBT)	Annually
Cologuard/ FIT-DNA	Every three years, 2 years prior through MY
Flexible Sigmoidoscopy	Every five years, 4 years prior through MY
CT Colonography	Every five years, 4 years prior through MY
Colonoscopy	Every ten years, 9 years prior through MY

- Member reported completed specified colon cancer screening with DOS
- Colorectal or colon cancer screening documentation dated in the MY is acceptable as an unknown FOBT.
- Notation of a completed specified colon cancer screening with DOS as part of the medical history. Health maintenance and preventive care sections are considered “history” sections.
- A pathology report that indicates the type of screening and the date meets criteria.
- A pathology report that does not indicate the type of screening:
 - Colonoscopy- Evidence that the scope advanced to the cecum or further (e.g., ileum, terminal ileum, ileocecal valve, appendiceal orifice)
 - Flexible Sigmoidoscopy- Evidence that the scope advanced into the sigmoid colon meets criteria for a completed flexible sigmoidoscopy (e.g., sigmoid flexure, descending colon, splenic flexure, transverse colon, ascending colon)
- Member refusal will **not** make them ineligible for this measure.
- Digital rectal exams (DRE) or FOBT test performed in the office setting will **not** meet compliance.

Test Type	Unknown	Guaiac (gFOBT)	FIT (iFOBT)	Unknown
Samples Returned	Unknown or 3 or >	Documented 3 or >	Any # or unknown	Documented 1 -2
Status	Compliant	Compliant	Compliant	Unacceptable Non-compliant

Exclusions

Exclusions	Time limit								
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Members in hospice or using hospice services Member deceased Members receiving palliative care 	Any time during measurement year (MY)								
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Colorectal cancer Total colectomy 	Anytime in member's history through Dec. 31 MY								
<p>Members 66 years of age and older by Dec. 31 MY with Advanced Illness and Frailty.</p> <p>Members must meet BOTH frailty and advanced illness criteria to be excluded.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Frailty diagnosis on 2 different DOS during the MY Advanced Illness: Either of the following during the MY or PY <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advanced illness diagnosis on 2 different DOS Dispensed a dementia medication <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Dementia Med Description</th> <th>Prescription</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Cholinesterase inhibitors</td> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Donepezil Galantamine Rivastigmine </td> </tr> <tr> <td>Misc. CNS Agents</td> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Memantine </td> </tr> <tr> <td>Combinations</td> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Donepezil-memantine </td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Dementia Med Description	Prescription	Cholinesterase inhibitors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Donepezil Galantamine Rivastigmine 	Misc. CNS Agents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Memantine 	Combinations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Donepezil-memantine
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Exclusion Codes

CPTII Code	Definition
Z85.038	Personal history of other malignant neoplasm of large intestine
Z85.048	Personal history of other malignant neoplasm of rectum, rectosigmoid junction, and anus
C18.0-9, C19-20, C21.2, C21.8, C78.5	Colorectal cancer, active

Strategies for Success	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> If a patient has family history of colon cancer, encourage a colonoscopy instead of a Cologuard. Use the Annual Wellness visit to schedule screenings. Add screenings to annual assessment form/ EMR template. Implement a referral tracking process. For patients refusing colonoscopy, recommend a FIT-DNA or FOBT kit. Educate patients on preparation for the ordered tests.

Resources

I. National Committee for Quality Assurance, HEDIS® Measurement Year 2024 Volume 2 Technical Specifications for Health Plans

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