



Breast Cancer Screening (BCS) Guide

Importance of Breast Cancer Screening

Breast cancer is the second leading cause of cancer death of women in the United States. The American Cancer Society estimates that in 2023 around 353,000 women will be diagnosed with new cases of breast cancer, and around 44,000 women will die from breast cancer.

Measure Description

Female patients ages 50-74 who had a mammogram to screen for breast cancer in the 27 months prior to the end of the measurement period

Definition

Mammography screening is defined by a bilateral screening (both breasts) of breast tissue. If only one breast is present, unilateral screening (one side) must be performed on the remaining breast.

Medical Records Documentation

Measure is to be submitted a minimum of **once per performance period** for patients seen during the period

- Date the mammogram was performed
- Documentation of mastectomy and date performed (if exact date is unknown, the year is acceptable)
- If the patient met exclusion criteria, include the following ICD-10-CM diagnosis codes on the claim:

ICD-10-CM Code	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 breast and nipples

Tips for Talking with Patients

- Because many women do not have symptoms with breast cancer, regular screenings are important
- Mammograms are effective in detecting early stages of breast cancer, when the cancer is most treatable
- Recommend frequency for mammograms is every 24 months for women ages 50-74
- Mammograms are about 85% accurate in detecting early breast cancer, and improves as women age

Improvement Notation

Higher score equals better quality

Denominator

Women ages 51-74 years of age with a visit during the measurement period (**Starting at age 50 women should have at least one mammogram every 24 months with a 3 month grace period**)



Numerator

Women ages 51-74 with at least 1 mammogram during the 27 months prior to the end of the measurement period (October 1 two years prior - December 31 of the current measurement period)

Exclusions

- Have a history of mastectomy on both the left and right side on the same or different dates of service, or there is evidence of a right and a left unilateral mastectomy (**G9708**)
- Patients 66 and older in Institutional Special Needs Plans (SNP) or residing in long-term care with a POS code 32, 33, 34, 54, or 56 for more than 90 consecutive days during the measurement period (**G9898**)
- Patients 66 years and older with at least one claim/encounter for frailty during the measurement period **AND** a dispensed medication for dementia (Donepezil, Galantamine, Rivastigmine, Memantine) during the measurement period or the year prior to the measurement period (**G2098**)
- Patients 66 and older with at least one claim/encounter for frailty during the measurement period **AND** either one acute inpatient encounter with a diagnosis of advanced illness or two outpatient, observation, ED or non-acute inpatient encounters on different dates of service with an advanced illness diagnosis during or the year prior to the measurement period (**G2099**)
- Hospice services or palliative care used any time during the measurement period (**G9709 or G9992**)
- Mammogram performed, performance met (**G9899**)
- Mammogram not performed, reason not otherwise specified, performance not met (**G9900**)

Disclaimer: *This information is not intended to dictate or substitute your professional judgment in a particular patient.*

References

[CMS, Quality ID #112 \(NQF 2372\): Breast Cancer Screening \(2023\)](#)

[Arkansas Blue Cross and Blue Shield, Breast Cancer Screening \(BCS-E\) \(2023\)](#)

[Humana, Quality Indicator Reference Guide for Physicians \(2023\)](#)

[American Cancer Society, Frequently Asked Questions About the American Cancer Society's Breast Cancer Screening Guideline \(2019\)](#)

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