



Complete Summary

TITLE

Pneumonia vaccination status: percentage of Medicare members age 65 years and older who ever received a pneumococcal vaccination.

SOURCE(S)

National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA). HEDIS 2004. Health plan employer data & information set. Vol. 2, Technical specifications. Washington (DC): National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA); 2003. 374 p.

National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA). HEDIS 2004. Health plan employer data & information set. Vol. 3, Specifications for survey measures. Washington (DC): National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA); 2003. 254 p.

Brief Abstract

DESCRIPTION

This measure assesses the percentage of Medicare members age 65 years and older as of January 1 of the measurement year who were continuously enrolled the six months of the measurement year prior to the administration of the survey who ever received a pneumococcal vaccination.

RATIONALE

Pneumococcal infection is a common cause of illness and death in the elderly and persons with certain underlying conditions. The United States Preventive Services Task Force, *Guide to Clinical Preventive Services*, recommends pneumococcal vaccine for all immunocompetent individuals who are aged 65 years and older or otherwise at increased risk for pneumococcal disease. The Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) recommends the pneumococcal vaccine for persons aged greater than or equal to 65 years, including previously unvaccinated persons and persons who have not received the vaccine within 5 years.

PRIMARY CLINICAL COMPONENT

Pneumonia; pneumococcal disease; vaccination

DENOMINATOR DESCRIPTION

The number of members who responded "Yes" or "No" to the question "Have you ever had a pneumonia shot? This shot is usually given only once or twice in a

person's lifetime and is different from the flu shot. It is called the pneumococcal vaccine."

NUMERATOR DESCRIPTION

The number of members in the denominator who responded "Yes" to the question "Have you ever had a pneumonia shot? This shot is usually given only once or twice in a person's lifetime and is different from the flu shot. It is called the pneumococcal vaccine."

Evidence Supporting the Measure

PRIMARY MEASURE DOMAIN

Process

SECONDARY MEASURE DOMAIN

Not applicable

EVIDENCE SUPPORTING THE MEASURE

A clinical practice guideline or other peer-reviewed synthesis of the clinical evidence

A formal consensus procedure involving experts in relevant clinical, methodological, and organizational sciences

One or more research studies published in a National Library of Medicine (NLM) indexed, peer-reviewed journal

Evidence Supporting Need for the Measure

NEED FOR THE MEASURE

Use of this measure to improve performance

EVIDENCE SUPPORTING NEED FOR THE MEASURE

Bulbin A, Simberkoff M. Prevention of pneumonia in the elderly. *Infect Med* 1995; 12(8): 385, 389-94.

Influenza and pneumococcal vaccination levels among adults aged > or =65 years--United States, 1997. *MMWR Morb Mortal Wkly Rep* 1998 Oct 2; 47(38): 797-802.

National Center for Health Statistics. *Healthy people 2000 review, 1998-99*. Hyattsville (MD): Public Health Service; 1999. Immunization and infectious diseases objectives. p. 204-5.

National Center for Health Statistics. Healthy people 2000 review, 1998-99. Hyattsville (MD): Public Health Service; 1999. Priority area 21: clinical preventive services. p. 206-8.

National Institute on Aging. Penumonia prevention: it's worth a shot [wellness update]. Bethesda (MD): National Institute on Aging; 1999.

State of Use of the Measure

STATE OF USE

Current routine use

CURRENT USE

Accreditation

Decision-making by businesses about health-plan purchasing

Decision-making by consumers about health plan/provider choice

Internal quality improvement

Application of Measure in its Current Use

CARE SETTING

Managed Care Plans

PROFESSIONALS RESPONSIBLE FOR HEALTH CARE

Measure is not provider specific

LOWEST LEVEL OF HEALTH CARE DELIVERY ADDRESSED

Single Health Care Delivery Organizations

TARGET POPULATION AGE

Age greater than or equal to 65 years

TARGET POPULATION GENDER

Either male or female

STRATIFICATION BY VULNERABLE POPULATIONS

Unspecified

INCIDENCE/PREVALENCE

Unspecified

ASSOCIATION WITH VULNERABLE POPULATIONS

The elderly have a much higher mortality from community-acquired pneumonia due to increased risk factors such as comorbidities, an increase in the number of medications taken, and weaknesses or disease of lung tissue. Pneumonia with a secondary blood stream infection causes up to a 90 percent mortality rate in elderly patients.

EVIDENCE FOR ASSOCIATION WITH VULNERABLE POPULATIONS

Ely E. Pneumonia in the elderly: diagnostic and therapeutic challenges. *Infect Med* 1997; 14(8): 643-54.

BURDEN OF ILLNESS

Pneumococcal infection is a common cause of illness and death in the elderly and persons with certain underlying conditions. Each year, pneumococcal infection causes an estimated 40,000 deaths among adults in the United States. Pneumococcal infection accounts for more deaths than any other vaccine-preventable bacterial disease.

EVIDENCE FOR BURDEN OF ILLNESS

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Prevention of pneumococcal disease: recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP). *MMWR Recomm Rep* 1997 Apr 4; 46(RR-8): 1-24. [123 references]

UTILIZATION

Unspecified

COSTS

The medical cost savings from pneumococcal vaccination are substantial. A 1997 study directed at the cost-effectiveness of vaccination against pneumococcal bacteremia among elderly people demonstrated average annual net savings of \$8.27 per person or a total of \$194 million for vaccinating the more than 60 percent of persons 65 years and older who remain unvaccinated against pneumococcal infection.

Another study conducted in 1997 demonstrated that for persons 65 years and older, the vaccine both reduces medical expenses and improves health. Specifically, the study concluded that vaccination resulted in a net gain of 1.21

days of healthy life. For the 23 million unvaccinated elderly in 1993, vaccination would have resulted in approximately 78,000 years of healthy life.

EVIDENCE FOR COSTS

National Institute on Aging. Pneumonia prevention: it's worth a shot [wellness update]. Bethesda (MD): National Institute on Aging; 1999.

Sisk JE, Moskowitz AJ, Whang W, Lin JD, Fedson DS, McBean AM, Plouffe JF, Cetron MS, Butler JC. Cost-effectiveness of vaccination against pneumococcal bacteremia among elderly people. *JAMA* 1997 Oct 22-29;278(16):1333-9.

Institute of Medicine National Healthcare Quality Report Categories

IOM CARE NEED

Staying Healthy

IOM DOMAIN

Effectiveness

Data Collection for the Measure

CASE FINDING

Both users and nonusers of care

DESCRIPTION OF CASE FINDING

Medicare members age 65 years and older as of January 1 of the measurement year who were continuously enrolled the six months of the measurement year prior to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services' administration of the survey with no gaps in enrollment and currently enrolled at the time the survey is completed

DENOMINATOR (INDEX) EVENT

Patient Characteristic

DENOMINATOR INCLUSIONS/EXCLUSIONS

Inclusions

The number of members who responded "Yes" or "No" to the question "Have you ever had a pneumonia shot? This shot is usually given only once or twice in a person's lifetime and is different from the flu shot. It is called the pneumococcal vaccine."

Exclusions
Unspecified

NUMERATOR INCLUSIONS/EXCLUSIONS

Inclusions

The number of members in the denominator who responded "Yes" to the question "Have you ever had a pneumonia shot? This shot is usually given only once or twice in a person's lifetime and is different from the flu shot. It is called the pneumococcal vaccine."

Exclusions
Unspecified

DENOMINATOR TIME WINDOW

Time window precedes index event

NUMERATOR TIME WINDOW

Episode of care

DATA SOURCE

Administrative data and patient survey

LEVEL OF DETERMINATION OF QUALITY

Individual Case

PRE-EXISTING INSTRUMENT USED

Unspecified

Computation of the Measure

SCORING

Rate

INTERPRETATION OF SCORE

Better quality is associated with a higher score

ALLOWANCE FOR PATIENT FACTORS

Unspecified

STANDARD OF COMPARISON

External comparison at a point in time
External comparison of time trends
Internal time comparison

Evaluation of Measure Properties

EXTENT OF MEASURE TESTING

Unspecified

Identifying Information

ORIGINAL TITLE

Pneumonia vaccination status for older adults.

MEASURE COLLECTION

[HEDIS® 2004: Health Plan Employer Data and Information Set](#)

DEVELOPER

National Committee for Quality Assurance - Private Nonprofit Organization

ADAPTATION

This measure is collected, calculated and reported by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) using the Medicare version of the CAHPS® survey, (Medicare CAHPS® survey).

CAHPS® 3.0 is sponsored by the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ).

PARENT MEASURE

CAHPS® (Consumer Assessment of Health Plans) 3.0 (Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality [AHRQ])

RELEASE DATE

2001 Jan

MEASURE STATUS

This is the current release of the measure.

SOURCE(S)

National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA). HEDIS 2004. Health plan employer data & information set. Vol. 2, Technical specifications. Washington (DC): National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA); 2003. 374 p.

National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA). HEDIS 2004. Health plan employer data & information set. Vol. 3, Specifications for survey measures. Washington (DC): National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA); 2003. 254 p.

MEASURE AVAILABILITY

The individual measure, "Pneumonia Vaccination Status for Older Adults," is published in "HEDIS 2004. Health plan employer data & information set. Vol. 2, Technical Specifications."

For more information, contact the National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA) at 2000 L Street, N.W., Suite 500, Washington, DC 20036; Telephone: 202-955-3500; Fax: 202-955-3599; Web site: www.ncqa.org.

NQMC STATUS

This NQMC summary was completed by ECRI on August 7, 2003. The information was verified by the measure developer on October 24, 2003.

COPYRIGHT STATEMENT

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For detailed specifications regarding the National Committee on Quality Assurance (NCQA) measures, refer to HEDIS Volume 2: Technical Specifications, available from the NCQA Web site at www.ncqa.org.

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Date Modified: 8/2/2004

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