

Date: November 30, 2023

To: All WellSense Providers

From: WellSense Health Plan

Subject: **Quality Measure Best Practices**

Product: MassHealth Qualified Health Plans Senior Care Options

Quality Measure Best Practices

WellSense is reminding all SCO providers in our network of best practices surrounding three quality measures: Colorectal Cancer Screening (COL), Hemoglobin A1c Control for Patients with Diabetes (HBD) and Controlling Blood Pressure (CBP). We recommend you review the information below and incorporate these best practices into your clinical routine, as doing so is expected to improve patient outcomes.

Colorectal Cancer Screening (COL)

Measure Definition:

Percentage of members ages 45–75 who had an appropriate screening for colorectal cancer.

Best Practices:

Test, Service or Procedure to Close Care Opportunity:

- Colonoscopy in measurement year or within nine years prior
- Flexible sigmoidoscopy or CT colonography in measurement year or within four years prior
- Stool DNA (sDNA) with FIT Test in measurement year or within two years prior
- iFOBT, gFOBT, or FIT in measurement year

Exclusions:

- Patients in hospice or using hospice services
- Patients receiving palliative care

Provider Communications

Massachusetts

- Patients who died during the measurement year
- Patients who had colorectal cancer or a total colectomy
- Patients age 66 and older as of December 31 of the measurement year who have two diagnoses of frailty on different dates of service and advanced illness diagnosis
- Medicare Patients ages 66 and older as of December 31 of the measurement year who are either:
 - Enrolled in an Institutional Special Needs Plan (I-SNP)
 - Living in a long-term institution

Collection/Documentation Requirements:

Hybrid and ECDS in 2023. ECDS only in 2024.

CPT II codes:

- 3044F: HbA1c level < 7.0%
- 3046F: HbA1c level > 9.0%
- 3051F: Most recent HG A1c \geq 7.0% and < 8.0%
- 3052F: Most recent HG A1c \geq 8.0% and \leq 9.0%
- Note: Report with date of test, not with date of office visit

Hemoglobin A1c Control for Patients with Diabetes (HBD)

Measure Definition:

Percentage of members ages 18–75 with diabetes (Types 1 and 2) who had an HbA1c lab test during the measurement year that showed their blood sugar is under control (good control is < 8.0%, poor control is > 9.0%).

Note: In 2024, this measure's name will change to GSD-Glycemic Status Assessment for Patients with Diabetes.

Best Practices:

- Initiate appropriate orders for fasting lab test
- Write extended-day prescriptions (90- or 100-day depending on benefit)
- Recommend automatic refills to support adherence

Exclusions:

Provider Communications

Massachusetts

- Patients in hospice or palliative care
- Patients age 66 and older with frailty and advanced illness
- Patients age 66 and older with I-SNP or who are institutionalized
- Patients who died during the measurement year
- Patients with no diagnosis of diabetes in any setting and steroid-induced diabetes

Collection/Documentation Requirements:

- Hybrid CPT II codes:
 - 3044F: HbA1c level < 7.0%
 - 3046F: HbA1c level > 9.0%
 - 3051F: Most recent HG A1c \geq 7.0% and < 8.0%
 - 3052F: Most recent HG A1c \geq 8.0% and \leq 9.0%
- Note: Report with date of test, not with date of office visit

Controlling Blood Pressure (CBP)

Measure Definition:

Percentage of members ages 18–85 who had a diagnosis of hypertension (HTN) and whose blood pressure (BP) was adequately controlled at <140/90 mmHg during the measurement year.

Best Practices:

- Repeat blood pressure measurement at the end of visit if the patient's blood pressure is more than or equal to 140/90
- Use the lowest systolic and lowest diastolic on same date of service
 - Note: Patients can self-report blood pressure from a digital device during an outpatient or virtual visit or over the phone
- Write extended-day prescriptions (90- or 100-day, depending on benefit)
- Recommend automatic refills to support adherence

Exclusions:

- Patients in hospice or palliative care
- Patients age 81 and older with frailty only
- Patients age 66–80 with frailty and advanced illness

Provider Communications

Massachusetts



- Patients age 66 and older with I-SNP or who are institutionalized
- Patients who died during the measurement year
- Patients on dialysis
- Patients with end-stage renal disease (ESRD) (N18.5, N18.6, Z99.2)
- Patients with a history of kidney transplant (Z94.0)
- Patients with nephrectomy
- Patient with non-acute inpatient admission

Collection/Documentation Requirements:

Hybrid

- Claim/Encounter Data
- Medical Record Documentation
- Pharmacy Data

Questions?

Contact the WellSense Quality team at QualityDept@wellsense.org with any questions.