Management of Hepatitis C: Review of the Performance Measures by the Performance Measurement Committee of the American College of Physicians

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**Recommendation**
ACP supports PQRS 400: “Hepatitis C: One Time Screening for Hepatitis C Virus for Patients at Risk.”

**Rationale**
ACP supports this measure because it aligns with the recommendations of the United States Preventive Services Task Force (USPSTF) and there is evidence of a practice gap.

**Measure Specifications**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PQRS 400: Hepatitis C: One Time Screening for Hepatitis C Virus for Patients at Risk</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Status:</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Measure Steward:</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Description:</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Numerator Statement:</strong></td>
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| **Definition:** | Screening for HCV Infection includes current or prior receipt of:  
1) HCV antibody test  
2) HCV RNA test  
3) Recombinant immunoblot assay (RIBA) test (if performed at any time in the past) |
| **Denominator Statement:** | All patients aged 18 years and older who were seen twice for any visit or who had at least one preventive care visit within the 12 month reporting period with one or more of the following: a history of injection drug use, receipt of a blood transfusion prior to 1992, receiving maintenance hemodialysis, OR birthdate in the years 1945–1965  
AND  
At least one preventive care visit (CPT and HCPCS): G0438, G0439  
OR  
At least two visits during the reporting period (CPT): 99201, 99202, 99203, 99204, 99205, 99212, 99213, 99214, 99215, 99304, 99305, 99306, 99307, 99308, 99309, 99310, 99324, 99325, 99326, 99327, 99328, 99334, 99335, 99336, 99337, 99341, 99342, 99343, 99344, 99345, 99347, 99348, 99349, 99350  
AND  
Patients who were born in the years 1945–1965: (G9448)  
OR  
History of receiving blood transfusions prior to 1992: (G9449)  
OR  
Receiving maintenance hemodialysis (CPT): 90951, 90952, 90953, 90954, |
Recommendation
ACP does not support PQRS 401: “Screening for Hepatocellular Carcinoma (HCC) in Patients with Hepatitis C Cirrhosis.”

Rationale
ACP does not support this measure because a recent evidence review demonstrates insufficient evidence for screening for hepatocellular carcinoma among patients with Hepatitis C.

Measure Specifications

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Measure</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Numerator Statement</th>
<th>Denominator Statement</th>
<th>Exclusions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PQRS 401: Screening for Hepatocellular Carcinoma (HCC) in Patients with Hepatitis C Cirrhosis</td>
<td>Percentage of patients aged 18 years and older with a diagnosis of chronic hepatitis C cirrhosis who underwent imaging with either ultrasound, contrast enhanced CT or MRI for hepatocellular carcinoma (HCC) at least once within the 12 month reporting period</td>
<td>Patients who underwent abdominal imaging with either ultrasound, contrast enhanced CT or MRI</td>
<td>All patients aged 18 years and older with a diagnosis of chronic hepatitis C cirrhosis</td>
<td>Documentation of medical reasons for not ordering or performing screening for HCV Medical reason: Comorbid medical conditions with expected survival &lt;5 years, hepatic decompensation and not a candidate for liver</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
transplantation, or other medical reasons. Patient reasons: Patient declined or other patient reasons (e.g., cost of tests, time related to accessing testing equipment)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Measure:</th>
<th>Process</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Level of Analysis:</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Care Setting:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Data Source:</td>
<td>Electronic Clinical Data, Electronic Clinical Data: Registry, Electronic Clinical Data: Claims</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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