

Quality Measure Resource Guide:

Breast Cancer Screening (BCS)

Measure Title: Breast Cancer Screening

Measure Description: Percentage of women 50-74 years of age who had a mammogram to screen for breast cancer in the 27 months prior to the end of the Measurement Period (e.g., 10/1/2023-12/31/2025).

I. Why This Measure Matters

This measure is important because breast cancer is one of the most common types of cancers, accounting for 15 percent of all new cancer diagnoses in the United States. In 2015, over 3 million women were estimated to be living with breast cancer in the U.S. and it is estimated that 12 percent of women will be diagnosed with breast cancer at some point during their lifetime. To help reduce mortality rates, mammography is used as an effective screening tool for early detection of breast cancer.

II. Implementable Strategies

- Note that mammograms do not need prior authorization and share list of nearby contracted imaging/mammography centers with patients.
- Refer patients to local mammography imaging centers. Follow up to confirm completion.
- Note the date of the mammogram with proof of completion in the medical record to confirm screening was ordered and completed.
- No specific documentation needed in the EHR. This measure requires claim/encounter data submission only using the appropriate Value Set Codes.
- All types and methods of mammograms (screening, diagnostic, film, digital, or digital breast tomosynthesis) meet the numerator compliance. Do not count biopsies, breast ultrasounds or MRIs.
- Schedule mobile mammography events at clinics or during health fairs, etc.
- Develop standing orders along with automated referrals (if applicable) for member ages 50–74.
- Educate patients on the importance of routine screening (at least once every 24 months). Remind patients that preventive screenings are covered under health care reform. Depending on risk factors, mammograms may be done more often.

III. Tools and Resources

- CDC's educational materials on breast cancer screening:
<https://www.cdc.gov/breast-cancer/screening/index.html>

IV. Evaluation Criteria

Eligible Clinicians: Family Medicine, General Practitioners, Nurse Practitioners, Physician Assistants, Certified Nurse Midwives

Measure Reporting:

- **Submission Methods:** Electronic Health Record (EHR), Registry

Numerator: Women with one or more mammograms any time on or between October 1 two years prior to the measurement period and the end of the measurement period (December 31)

Denominator: Women 52-74 years of age by the end of the measurement period with a visit during the measurement period

Exclusions: Women who had a bilateral mastectomy or who have a history of a bilateral mastectomy or for whom there is evidence of a right and a left unilateral mastectomy on or before the end of the measurement period, women who are in hospice care, 66 years of age and older with frailty and advanced illness, or who are on palliative or hospice care

Rate Calculation Formula: (Numerator / Denominator) x 100

Reporting Requirements

- **Data Collection Strategy:** Data for this measure can be derived from electronic health records or direct data submissions from healthcare providers.
- **Reporting Frequency:** Annually
- **Improvement Notation:** Higher scores indicate better performance, i.e., a higher percentage of individuals who have been screened for breast cancer during the measurement period.