



Avoidance of Antibiotic Treatment for Acute Bronchitis/Bronchiolitis (AAB)

HEDIS® Measurement Year 2024

Measure description: The percentage of members 3 months of age and older (as of December 31 of the measurement year) with a diagnosis of acute bronchitis/ bronchiolitis who were not dispensed an antibiotic prescription. Member can either be seen in an outpatient setting, telephone, online assessment, observation, or ED visit not resulting in an inpatient stay during the Intake Period with any diagnosis of acute bronchitis.

Calculation

The measure is reported as an inverted rate. A higher rate indicates appropriate treatment of adults with acute bronchitis, i.e., the proportion for whom antibiotics were not prescribed.

Measure adherence

Adherence for the AAB measure is determined by the member not getting prescribed an antibiotic for acute bronchitis/bronchiolitis. This is determined by pharmacy claims data (the plan will capture data each time the member fills their prescription).

Strategies for improvement

- Utilize NCQA coding tips to actively reflect care rendered.
- Instruct patients on the difference between viral and bacterial infections.
- Provide tips for managing viral infections and their symptoms such as OTC medications, aromatherapy, and steam baths, etc.
- Educate patients on “super bugs” and antibiotic resistance from overuse of antibiotics.