Measure #159 (NQF 0404): HIV/AIDS: CD4+ Cell Count or CD4+ Percentage

2013 PQRS OPTIONS FOR INDIVIDUAL MEASURES:
REGISTRY ONLY

DESCRIPTION:
Percentage of patients aged 6 months and older with a diagnosis of HIV/AIDS for whom a CD4+ cell count or CD4+ cell percentage was performed at least once every 6 months

INSTRUCTIONS:
This measure is to be reported either once or twice per reporting period for patients with HIV/AIDS. If the patient is seen during both the first and second halves of the year, we would expect 2 QDCs: one during the first half of the year and one in the second half of the year. However, if the two visits both occurred in either the first or second half of the year, only 1 QDC needs to be reported. This measure is intended to reflect the quality of services provided for the primary management of patients with HIV/AIDS.

Measure Reporting via Registry:
ICD-9-CM diagnosis codes, CPT or HCPCS codes, and patient demographics are used to identify patients who are included in the measure’s denominator. The listed numerator options are used to report the numerator of the measure.

The quality-data codes listed do not need to be submitted for registry-based submissions; however, these codes may be submitted for those registries that utilize claims data. There are no allowable performance exclusions for this measure.

DENOMINATOR:
Patients aged 6 months and older with a diagnosis of HIV/AIDS who had at least two medical visits during the measurement year, with at least 60 days between each visit

Denominator Criteria (Eligible Cases):
Patients aged ≥ 6 months on date of encounter
AND
Diagnosis for HIV/AIDS (ICD-9-CM): 042, V08
Diagnosis for HIV/AIDS (ICD-10-CM) [REFERENCE ONLY/Not Reportable]: B20, Z21
AND
Patient encounters during the reporting period (CPT or HCPCS): 99201, 99202, 99203, 99204, 99205, 99212, 99213, 99214, 99215, G0402

NUMERATOR:
Patients with CD4+ cell count or CD4+ cell percentage performed at least once every 6 months

Numerator Options:
CD4+ cell count or CD4+ cell percentage documented as performed (3500F)
OR
CD4+ cell count or percentage not documented as performed, reason not otherwise specified (3500F with 8P)
RATIONALE:
CD4+ cell counts help to establish monitoring frequency, and are taken into account when establishing a patient’s disease stage.

CLINICAL RECOMMENDATION STATEMENTS:
Asymptomatic patients with normal CD4 cell counts and low virus loads can be monitored infrequently, repeating virus load measurements every 3-4 months and CD4 cell counts every 3-6 months. (Level of Evidence: B) (IDSA)

CD4 percentage or count should be measured at the time of diagnosis of HIV infection and at least every 3-4 months thereafter. (DHHS)

Clinicians should measure CD4 cell counts at the time of diagnosis of HIV infection and every 3 to 4 months thereafter. (NYSDOH)