Quality ID #191: Cataracts: 20/40 or Better Visual Acuity within 90 Days Following Cataract Surgery

2026 COLLECTION TYPE:
MERIT-BASED INCENTIVE PAYMENT SYSTEM (MIPS) CLINICAL QUALITY MEASURE (CQM)

MEASURE TYPE:
Outcome – High Priority

DESCRIPTION:
Percentage of cataract surgeries for patients aged 18 years and older with a diagnosis of uncomplicated cataract and no significant ocular conditions impacting the visual outcome of surgery and had best-corrected visual acuity of 20/40 or better (distance or near) achieved in the operative eye within 90 days following the cataract surgery.

INSTRUCTIONS:

Reporting Frequency:
This measure is to be submitted each time for denominator eligible cases as defined in the denominator criteria.

Intent and Clinician Applicability:
This measure is intended to reflect the quality of services provided for the patients receiving uncomplicated cataract surgery. This measure is to be submitted by the Merit-based Incentive Payment System (MIPS) eligible clinician performing the cataract surgery procedure. Clinicians who provide only preoperative or postoperative management of cataract surgery patients are not eligible for this measure.

Measure Strata and Performance Rates:
This measure contains one strata defined by a single submission criteria.
This measure produces a single performance rate.

Implementation Considerations:
For the purposes of MIPS implementation, this procedure measure is submitted each time a procedure is performed. This is an outcome measure and will be calculated solely using Merit-based Incentive Payment System (MIPS) eligible clinician, group, or third-party intermediary submitted data.

- For patients who receive the cataract surgical procedures specified in the denominator coding, it should be reported whether or not the patient had best-corrected visual acuity of 20/40 or better achieved in the operative eye within 90 days following cataract surgery.
- Cataract surgeries performed on patients who have any of the listed significant ocular conditions [comorbid] in the exclusion criteria should be removed from the denominator; these patients have existing ocular conditions that could impact the outcome of surgery and are not included in the measure calculation for those patients who have best-corrected visual acuity of 20/40 or better (distance or near) achieved in the operative eye within 90 days following the cataract surgery.
- Include only cataract surgery procedures performed between January 1st and September 30th of the performance period. This will allow the post-operative period to occur within the performance period.
- The measure, as written, does not specifically require documentation of laterality. Coding limitations in particular clinical terminologies do not currently allow for that level of specificity (ICD-10-CM includes laterality, but SNOMED-CT does not uniformly include this distinction). Therefore, at this time, it is not a requirement of this measure to indicate laterality of the diagnoses, findings or procedures. Available coding to capture the data elements specified in this measure has been provided. It is assumed that the eligible clinician will record laterality in the patient medical record, as quality care and clinical documentation should include laterality.

Telehealth:

NOT TELEHEALTH ELIGIBLE: This measure is not appropriate for nor applicable to the telehealth setting. This measure is procedure based and therefore doesn't allow for the denominator criteria to be conducted via telehealth. It would be appropriate to remove these patients from the denominator eligible patient population. Telehealth eligibility is at the measure level for inclusion within the denominator eligible patient population and based on the measure specification definitions which are independent of changes to coding and/or billing practices.

Measure Submission:
The quality data codes listed do not need to be submitted by MIPS eligible clinicians, groups, or third party intermediaries that utilize this collection type for submissions; however, these codes may be submitted for those third party intermediaries that utilize Medicare Part B claims data. The coding provided to identify the measure criteria: Denominator or Numerator, may be an example of coding that could be used to identify patients that meet the intent of this clinical topic. When implementing this measure, please refer to the 'Reference Coding' section to determine if other codes or code languages that meet the intent of the criteria may also be used within the medical record to identify and/or assess patients. For more information regarding Application Programming Interface (API), please refer to the Quality Payment Program (QPP) website.

DENOMINATOR:
All cataract surgeries performed between January and September of the performance period for patients 18 years and older.

Denominator Criteria (Eligible Cases):
Patients aged ≥18 years on date of procedure
AND
Procedure during the performance period (CPT): 66840, 66850, 66852, 66920, 66930, 66940, 66982, 66983, 66984
WITHOUT
Modifier: 56 or 55
AND NOT
DENOMINATOR EXCLUSION:
Any of the following significant ocular conditions that impact the visual outcome of surgery: M1439

Reference Coding:
Denominator Exclusion for Significant Ocular Conditions [M1439] may be defined by the following coding only: Table 1 (Patients with documentation of the presence of one or more of the following significant ocular conditions that impact the visual outcome of surgery prior to date of cataract surgery which is still active at the time of the cataract surgery are excluded from the measure calculation.)

Table 1 - Significant Ocular Conditions

Significant Ocular Condition	Corresponding ICD-10-CM Codes
Acute and Subacute Iridocyclitis	H20.00, H20.011, H20.012, H20.013, H20.021, H20.022, H20.023, H20.031, H20.032, H20.033, H20.041, H20.042, H20.043, H20.051, H20.052, H20.053
Amblyopia	H53.001, H53.002, H53.003, H53.011, H53.012, H53.013, H53.021, H53.022, H53.023, H53.031, H53.032, H53.033, H53.041, H53.042, H53.043
Burn Confined to Eye and Adnexa	T26.01XA, T26.02XA, T26.11XA, T26.12XA, T26.21XA, T26.22XA, T26.31XA, T26.32XA, T26.41XA, T26.42XA, T26.51XA, T26.52XA, T26.61XA, T26.62XA, T26.71XA, T26.72XA, T26.81XA, T26.82XA, T26.91XA, T26.92XA
Cataract Secondary to Ocular Disorders	H26.211, H26.212, H26.213, H26.221, H26.222, H26.223
Cataract, Congenital	Q12.0
Cataract, Mature or Hypermature	H26.9
Cataract, Posterior Polar	H25.041, H25.042, H25.043
Central Corneal Ulcer	H16.011, H16.012, H16.013

Significant Ocular Condition	Corresponding ICD-10-CM Codes
Certain Types of Iridocyclitis	H20.21, H20.22, H20.23, H20.811, H20.812, H20.813, H20.821, H20.822, H20.823, H20.9
Choroidal Degenerations	H35.33
Choroidal Detachment	H31.401, H31.402, H31.403, H31.411, H31.412, H31.413, H31.421, H31.422, H31.423
Choroidal Hemorrhage and Rupture	H31.301, H31.302, H31.303, H31.311, H31.312, H31.313, H31.321, H31.322, H31.323
Chronic Iridocyclitis	A18.54, H20.11, H20.12, H20.13, H20.9
Cloudy Cornea	H17.01, H17.02, H17.03, H17.11, H17.12, H17.13, H17.811, H17.812, H17.813, H17.821, H17.822, H17.823
Corneal Edema	H18.11, H18.12, H18.13, H18.20, H18.221, H18.222, H18.223, H18.231, H18.232, H18.233, H18.421, H18.422, H18.423, H18.43
Disorders of Cornea Including Cornea Opacity	H17.01, H17.02, H17.03, H17.11, H17.12, H17.13, H17.89, H17.9
Degeneration of Macula and Posterior Pole	H35.30, H35.3110, H35.3111, H35.3112, H35.3113, H35.3114, H35.3120, H35.3121, H35.3122, H35.3123, H35.3124, H35.3130, H35.3131, H35.3132, H35.3133, H35.3134, H35.3210, H35.3211, H35.3212, H35.3213, H35.3220, H35.3221, H35.3222, H35.3223, H35.3230, H35.3231, H35.3232, H35.3233, H35.341, H35.342, H35.343, H35.351, H35.352, H35.353, H35.361, H35.362, H35.363, H35.371, H35.372, H35.373, H35.381, H35.382, H35.383
Degenerative Disorders of Globe	H44.2A1, H44.2A2, H44.2A3, H44.2B1, H44.2B2, H44.2B3, H44.2C1, H44.2C2, H44.2C3, H44.2D1, H44.2D2, H44.2D3, H44.2E1, H44.2E2, H44.2E3, H44.21, H44.22, H44.23, H44.311, H44.312, H44.313, H44.321, H44.322, H44.323, H44.391, H44.392, H44.393
Diabetic Macular Edema	E08.311, E08.3211, E08.3212, E08.3213, E08.3311, E08.3312, E08.3313, E08.3411, E08.3412, E08.3413, E08.3511, E08.3512, E08.3513, E08.3521, E08.3522, E08.3523, E08.3531, E08.3532, E08.3533, E08.3541, E08.3542, E08.3543, E08.3551, E08.3552, E08.3553, E08.37X1, E08.37X2, E08.37X3, E09.311, E09.3211, E09.3212, E09.3213, E09.3311, E09.3312, E09.3313, E09.3411, E09.3412, E09.3413, E09.3511, E09.3512, E09.3513, E09.3521, E09.3522, E09.3523, E09.3531, E09.3532, E09.3533, E09.3541, E09.3542, E09.3543, E09.3551, E09.3552, E09.3553, E09.37X1, E09.37X2, E09.37X3, E10.311, E10.3211, E10.3212, E10.3213, E10.3311, E10.3312, E10.3313, E10.3411, E10.3412, E10.3413, E10.3511, E10.3512, E10.3513, E10.3521, E10.3522, E10.3523, E10.3531, E10.3532, E10.3533, E10.3541, E10.3542, E10.3543, E10.3551, E10.3552, E10.3553, E10.37X1, E10.37X2, E10.37X3, E11.311, E11.3211, E11.3212, E11.3213, E11.3311, E11.3312, E11.3313, E11.3411, E11.3412, E11.3413, E11.3511, E11.3512, E11.3513, E11.3521, E11.3522, E11.3523, E11.3531, E11.3532, E11.3533, E11.3541, E11.3542, E11.3543, E11.3551, E11.3552, E11.3553, E11.37X1, E11.37X2, E11.37X3, E13.311, E13.3211, E13.3212, E13.3213, E13.3311, E13.3312, E13.3313, E13.3411, E13.3412, E13.3413, E13.3511, E13.3512, E13.3513, E13.3521, E13.3522, E13.3523, E13.3531, E13.3532, E13.3533, E13.3541, E13.3542, E13.3543, E13.3551, E13.3552, E13.3553, E13.37X1, E13.37X2, E13.37X3

Significant Ocular Condition	Corresponding ICD-10-CM Codes
Diabetic Retinopathy	E08.311, E08.319, E08.3211, E08.3212, E08.3213, E08.3291, E08.3292, E08.3293, E08.3311, E08.3312, E08.3313, E08.3391, E08.3392, E08.3393, E08.3411, E08.3412, E08.3413, E08.3491, E08.3492, E08.3493, E08.3511, E08.3512, E08.3513, E08.3521, E08.3522, E08.3523, E08.3531, E08.3532, E08.3533, E08.3541, E08.3542, E08.3543, E08.3551, E08.3552, E08.3553, E08.3591, E08.3592, E08.3593, E09.311, E09.319, E09.3211, E09.3212, E09.3213, E09.3291, E09.3292, E09.3293, E09.3311, E09.3312, E09.3313, E09.3391, E09.3392, E09.3393, E09.3411, E09.3412, E09.3413, E09.3491, E09.3492, E09.3493, E09.3511, E09.3512, E09.3513, E09.3521, E09.3522, E09.3523, E09.3531, E09.3532, E09.3533, E09.3541, E09.3542, E09.3543, E09.3551, E09.3552, E09.3553, E09.3591, E09.3592, E09.3593, E10.311, E10.319, E10.3211, E10.3212, E10.3213, E10.3291, E10.3292, E10.3293, E10.3311, E10.3312, E10.3313, E10.3391, E10.3392, E10.3393, E10.3411, E10.3412, E10.3413, E10.3491, E10.3492, E10.3493, E10.3511, E10.3512, E10.3513, E10.3521, E10.3522, E10.3523, E10.3531, E10.3532, E10.3533, E10.3541, E10.3542, E10.3543, E10.3551, E10.3552, E10.3553, E10.3591, E10.3592, E10.3593, E11.311, E11.319, E11.3211, E11.3212, E11.3213, E11.3291, E11.3292, E11.3293, E11.3311, E11.3312, E11.3313, E11.3391, E11.3392, E11.3393, E11.3411, E11.3412, E11.3413, E11.3491, E11.3492, E11.3493, E11.3511, E11.3512, E11.3513, E11.3521, E11.3522, E11.3523, E11.3531, E11.3532, E11.3533, E11.3541, E11.3542, E11.3543, E11.3551, E11.3552, E11.3553, E11.3591, E11.3592, E11.3593, E13.311, E13.319, E13.3211, E13.3212, E13.3213, E13.3291, E13.3292, E13.3293, E13.3311, E13.3312, E13.3313, E13.3391, E13.3392, E13.3393, E13.3411, E13.3412, E13.3413, E13.3491, E13.3492, E13.3493, E13.3511, E13.3512, E13.3513, E13.3521, E13.3522, E13.3523, E13.3531, E13.3532, E13.3533, E13.3541, E13.3542, E13.3543, E13.3551, E13.3552, E13.3553, E13.3591, E13.3592, E13.3593
Disorders of Optic Chiasm	H47.41, H47.42, H47.43, H47.49
Disorders of Visual Cortex	H47.611, H47.612, H47.621, H47.622, H47.631, H47.632, H47.641, H47.642
Disseminated Chorioretinitis and Disseminated Retinochoroiditis	A18.53, H30.101, H30.102, H30.103, H30.111, H30.112, H30.113, H30.121, H30.122, H30.123, H30.131, H30.132, H30.133, H30.141, H30.142, H30.143
Focal Chorioretinitis and Focal Retinochoroiditis	H30.001, H30.002, H30.003, H30.011, H30.012, H30.013, H30.021, H30.022, H30.023, H30.031, H30.032, H30.033, H30.041, H30.042, H30.043

Significant Ocular Condition	Corresponding ICD-10-CM Codes
Glaucoma	H40.10X0, H40.10X1, H40.10X2, H40.10X3, H40.10X4, H40.1110, H40.1111, H40.1112, H40.1113, H40.1114, H40.1120, H40.1121, H40.1122, H40.1123, H40.1124, H40.1130, H40.1131, H40.1132, H40.1133, H40.1134, H40.1210, H40.1211, H40.1212, H40.1213, H40.1214, H40.1220, H40.1221, H40.1222, H40.1223, H40.1224, H40.1230, H40.1231, H40.1232, H40.1233, H40.1234, H40.1310, H40.1311, H40.1312, H40.1313, H40.1314, H40.1320, H40.1321, H40.1322, H40.1323, H40.1324, H40.1330, H40.1331, H40.1332, H40.1333, H40.1334, H40.1410, H40.1411, H40.1412, H40.1413, H40.1414, H40.1420, H40.1421, H40.1422, H40.1423, H40.1424, H40.1430, H40.1431, H40.1432, H40.1433, H40.1434, H40.151, H40.152, H40.153, H40.20X0, H40.20X1, H40.20X2, H40.20X3, H40.20X4, H40.211, H40.212, H40.213, H40.2210, H40.2211, H40.2212, H40.2213, H40.2214, H40.2220, H40.2221, H40.2222, H40.2223, H40.2224, H40.2230, H40.2231, H40.2232, H40.2233, H40.2234, H40.231, H40.232, H40.233, H40.241, H40.242, H40.243, H40.31X0, H40.31X1, H40.31X2, H40.31X3, H40.31X4, H40.32X0, H40.32X1, H40.32X2, H40.32X3, H40.32X4, H40.33X0, H40.33X1, H40.33X2, H40.33X3, H40.33X4, H40.41X0, H40.41X1, H40.41X2, H40.41X3, H40.41X4, H40.42X0, H40.42X1, H40.42X2, H40.42X3, H40.42X4, H40.43X0, H40.43X1, H40.43X2, H40.43X3, H40.43X4, H40.51X0, H40.51X1, H40.51X2, H40.51X3, H40.51X4, H40.52X0, H40.52X1, H40.52X2, H40.52X3, H40.52X4, H40.53X0, H40.53X1, H40.53X2, H40.53X3, H40.53X4, H40.61X0, H40.61X1, H40.61X2, H40.61X3, H40.61X4, H40.62X0, H40.62X1, H40.62X2, H40.62X3, H40.62X4, H40.63X0, H40.63X1, H40.63X2, H40.63X3, H40.63X4, H40.811, H40.812, H40.813, H40.821, H40.822, H40.823, H40.831, H40.832, H40.833, H40.89, Q15.0
Glaucoma Associated with Congenital Anomalies and Dystrophies and Systemic Syndromes	H40.31X0, H40.31X1, H40.31X2, H40.31X3, H40.31X4, H40.32X0, H40.32X1, H40.32X2, H40.32X3, H40.32X4, H40.33X0, H40.33X1, H40.33X2, H40.33X3, H40.33X4, H40.41X0, H40.41X1, H40.41X2, H40.41X3, H40.41X4, H40.42X0, H40.42X1, H40.42X2, H40.42X3, H40.42X4, H40.43X0, H40.43X1, H40.43X2, H40.43X3, H40.43X4, H40.51X0, H40.51X1, H40.51X2, H40.51X3, H40.51X4, H40.52X0, H40.52X1, H40.52X2, H40.52X3, H40.52X4, H40.53X0, H40.53X1, H40.53X2, H40.53X3, H40.53X4, H40.811, H40.812, H40.813, H40.821, H40.822, H40.823, H40.831, H40.832, H40.833, H40.89, H40.9, H42
Hereditary Choroidal Dystrophies	H31.20, H31.21, H31.22, H31.23, H31.29
Hereditary Corneal Dystrophies	H18.501, H18.502, H18.503, H18.511, H18.512, H18.513, H18.521, H18.522, H18.523, H18.531, H18.532, H18.533, H18.541, H18.542, H18.543, H18.551, H18.552, H18.553, H18.591, H18.592, H18.593
Hereditary Retinal Dystrophies	H35.50, H35.51, H35.52, H35.53, H35.54, H36.811, H36.812, H36.813, H36.819, H36.821, H36.822, H36.823, H36.829, H36.89
Hypotony of Eye	H44.40, H44.411, H44.412, H44.413, H44.421, H44.422, H44.423, H44.431, H44.432, H44.433, H44.441, H44.442, H44.443
Injury to Optic Nerve and Pathways	S04.011A, S04.012A, S04.02XA, S04.031A, S04.032A, S04.041A, S04.042A
Macular Scar of Posterior Polar	H31.011, H31.012, H31.013
Morgagnian Cataract	H25.21, H25.22, H25.23
Nystagmus and Other Irregular Eye Movements	H55.00, H55.01, H55.02, H55.03, H55.04, H55.09, H55.81, H55.89
Open Wound of Eyeball	S05.11XA, S05.12XA, S05.21XA, S05.22XA, S05.31XA, S05.32XA, S05.51XA, S05.52XA, S05.61XA, S05.62XA, S05.71XA, S05.72XA, S05.8X1A, S05.8X2A

Significant Ocular Condition	Corresponding ICD-10-CM Codes
Optic Atrophy	H47.20, H47.211, H47.212, H47.213, H47.22, H47.231, H47.232, H47.233, H47.291, H47.292, H47.293
Optic Neuritis	H46.01, H46.02, H46.03, H46.11, H46.12, H46.13, H46.2, H46.3, H46.8, H46.9
Other and Unspecified Forms of Chorioretinitis and Retinochoroiditis	H30.21, H30.22, H30.23, H30.811, H30.812, H30.813, H30.891, H30.892, H30.893, H30.91, H30.92, H30.93
Other Background Retinopathy and Retinal Vascular Changes	H35.021, H35.022, H35.023, H35.051, H35.052, H35.053, H35.061, H35.062, H35.063
Other Disorders of Optic Nerve	H47.011, H47.012, H47.013
Other Endophthalmitis	H16.241, H16.242, H16.243, H21.331, H21.332, H21.333, H33.121, H33.122, H33.123, H44.111, H44.112, H44.113, H44.121, H44.122, H44.123, H44.131, H44.132, H44.133, H44.19
Other Proliferative Retinopathy	H35.101, H35.102, H35.103, H35.111, H35.112, H35.113, H35.121, H35.122, H35.123, H35.131, H35.132, H35.133, H35.141, H35.142, H35.143, H35.151, H35.152, H35.153, H35.161, H35.162, H35.163, H35.171, H35.172, H35.173
Pathologic Myopia	H44.2A1, H44.2A2, H44.2A3, H44.2B1, H44.2B2, H44.2B3, H44.2C1, H44.2C2, H44.2C3, H44.2D1, H44.2D2, H44.2D3, H44.2E1, H44.2E2, H44.2E3, H44.21, H44.22, H44.23, H44.30
Posterior Lenticonus	Q12.2, Q12.4, Q12.8
Prior Penetrating Keratoplasty	H18.601, H18.602, H18.603, H18.611, H18.612, H18.613, H18.621, H18.622, H18.623
Purulent Endophthalmitis	H44.001, H44.002, H44.003, H44.011, H44.012, H44.013, H44.021, H44.022, H44.023
Retinal Detachment with Retinal Defect	H33.001, H33.002, H33.003, H33.011, H33.012, H33.013, H33.021, H33.022, H33.023, H33.031, H33.032, H33.033, H33.041, H33.042, H33.043, H33.051, H33.052, H33.053, H33.41, H33.42, H33.43, H33.8
Retinal Vascular Occlusion	H34.11, H34.12, H34.13, H34.231, H34.232, H34.233, H34.8110, H34.8111, H34.8112, H34.8120, H34.8121, H34.8122, H34.8130, H34.8131, H34.8132, H34.8310, H34.8311, H34.8312, H34.8320, H34.8321, H34.8322, H34.8330, H34.8331, H34.8332
Retrolental Fibroplasias	H35.171, H35.172, H35.173
Scleritis	H15.021, H15.022, H15.023, H15.031, H15.032, H15.033, H15.041, H15.042, H15.043, H15.051, H15.052, H15.053, H15.091, H15.092, H15.093
Separation of Retinal Layers	H35.711, H35.712, H35.713, H35.721, H35.722, H35.723, H35.731, H35.732, H35.733
Traumatic Cataract	H26.101, H26.102, H26.103, H26.111, H26.112, H26.113, H26.121, H26.122, H26.123, H26.131, H26.132, H26.133
Uveitis	H44.111, H44.112, H44.113, H44.131, H44.132, H44.133
Vascular Disorders of Iris and Ciliary Body	H21.1X1, H21.1X2, H21.1X3
Visual Field Defects	H53.411, H53.412, H53.413, H53.421, H53.422, H53.423, H53.431, H53.432, H53.433, H53.451, H53.452, H53.453, H53.461, H53.462, H53.47, H53.481, H53.482, H53.483

NUMERATOR:

Cataract surgeries with best-corrected visual acuity of 20/40 or better (distance or near) achieved in the operative eye within 90 days following cataract surgery.

Numerator Options:

Performance Met: Best-corrected visual acuity of 20/40 or better (distance or near) achieved within the 90 days following cataract surgery (4175F)

OR

Performance Not Met: Best-corrected visual acuity of 20/40 or better (distance or near) not achieved within the 90 days following cataract surgery, reason not otherwise specified (4175F *with* 8P)

RATIONALE:

In the United States, cataracts affect more than 24 million adults over 40 years (National Eye Institute, 2019). According to the American Academy of Ophthalmology (Academy) (2021), cataract surgery has a substantial beneficial impact on visual function and on quality of life.

1. Scientific basis for measuring visual acuity outcomes after cataract surgery:
   The only reason to perform cataract surgery (other than for a limited set of medical indications) is to improve a patient's vision and associated functioning. The use of a 20/40 visual acuity threshold is based on several considerations. First, it is the level for unrestricted operation of a motor vehicle in the US. Second, it has been consistently used by the FDA in its assessment for approval of intraocular lens (IOL) and other vision devices. Third, it is the literature standard to denote success in cataract surgery. Fourth, work by West et al. in the Salisbury

   Eye Study suggests that 20/40 is a useful threshold for 50th percentile functioning for several vision- related tasks.
   Most patients achieve excellent visual acuity after cataract surgery (20/40 or better). This outcome is achieved consistently through careful attention through the accurate measurement of axial length and corneal power and the appropriate selection of an IOL power calculation formula. As such, it reflects the care and diligence with which the surgery is assessed, planned and executed. Failure to achieve this after surgery in eyes without comorbid ocular conditions that would impact the success of the surgery would reflect care that should be assessed for opportunities for improvement.

   The exclusion of patients with other ocular and systemic conditions known to increase the risk of an adverse outcome reflects the findings of the two published prediction rule papers for cataract surgery outcomes, by Mangione et al. (1995) and Steinberg et al. (1994). In both papers, the presence of comorbid glaucoma and macular degeneration negatively impacted the likelihood of successful outcomes of surgery. Further, as noted in the prior indicator, exclusion of eyes with ocular conditions that could impact the success of the surgery would NOT eliminate the large majority of eyes undergoing surgery while also minimizing the potential adverse selection that might otherwise occur relative to those patients with the most complex situations who might benefit the most from having surgery to maximize their remaining vision.

2. Evidence of a gap in care
   Cataract surgery successfully restores vision in the majority of people who have the procedure.
   Data from a study of 368,256 cataract surgeries show that corrected visual acuity (CDVA) of 0.5 (20/40) or better was achieved in 94.3% and CDVA of 1.0 (20/20) or better was achieved in 61.3% of cases (Lundstrom et al., 2013).

   Additionally, data from a UK multi-center Cataract National Dataset found a postoperative visual acuity of 6/12 (20/40) or better was achieved for 94.7% of eyes with no co-pathologies and in 79.9% of eyes with one or more co-pathologies (Jaycock et al., 2009).

   A rate of 85.5-94.7% of patients achieving a 20/40 or better visual acuity in the context of approximately 3 million cataract surgeries in the US annually would mean that between 160,000 to 435,000 individuals would not achieve a 20/40 or better visual acuity which suggests an opportunity for improvement.

CLINICAL RECOMMENDATION STATEMENTS:

This is an outcome measure. As such, there is no statement in the guideline specific to this measurement topic.

REFERENCES:

Jaycock, P., Johnston, R. L., Taylor, H., Adams, M., Tole, D. M., Galloway, P., … UK EPR user group (2009). The Cataract National Dataset electronic multi-centre audit of 55,567 operations: Updating benchmark standards of care in the United Kingdom and internationally. Eye, 23(1), 38-49. doi:10.1038/sj.eye.6703015

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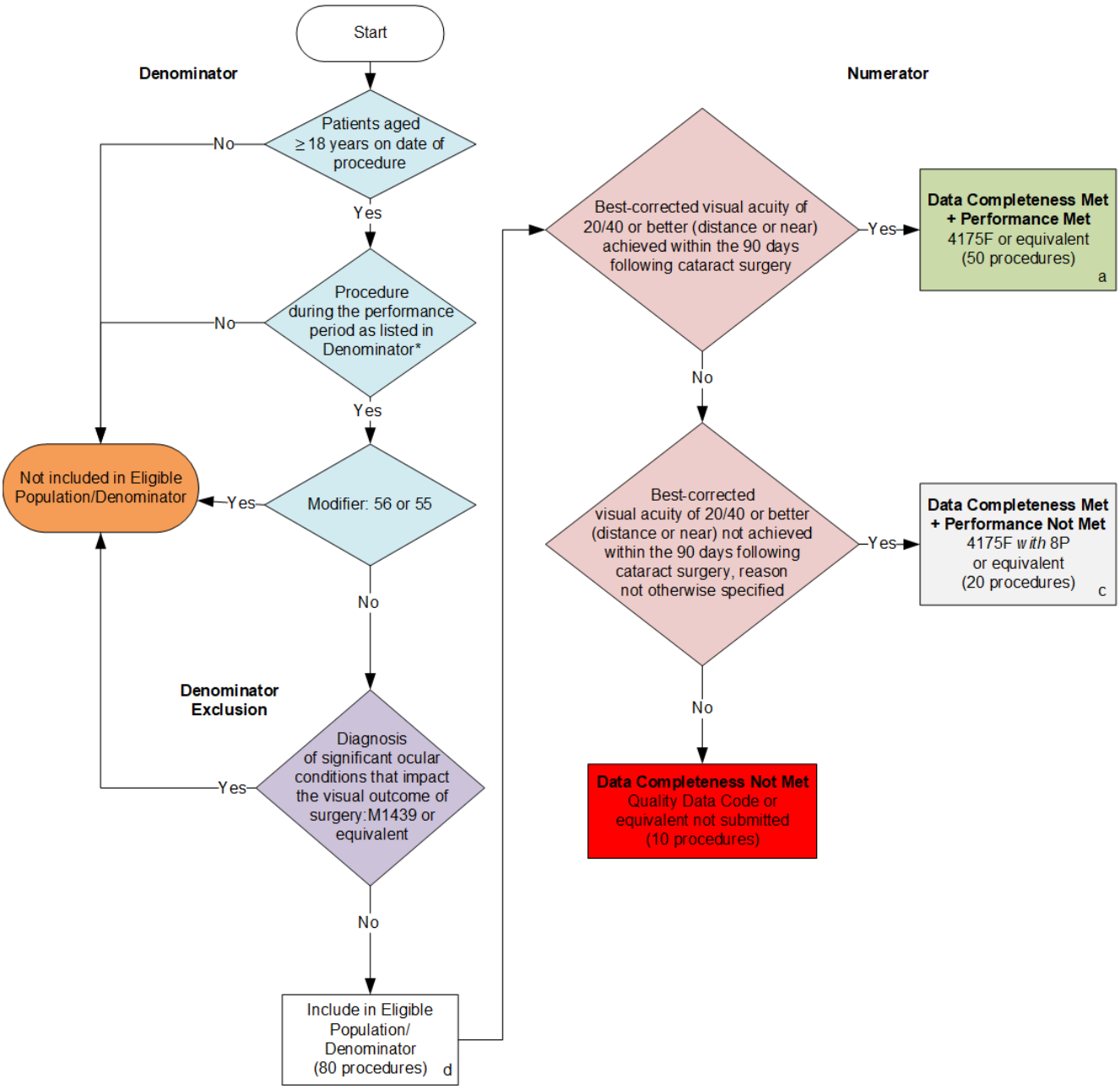
National Eye Institute. (2019). Cataract data and statistics. https://nei.nih.gov/eyedata/cataract

Steinberg, E. P., Tielsch, J. M., Schein, O. D., Javitt, J. C., Sharkey, P., Cassard, S. D., … Damiano, A. M. (1994). National study of cataract surgery outcomes: Variation in 4-month postoperative outcomes as reflected in multiple outcome measures. Ophthalmology, 101(6), 1131-1141. doi:10.1016/s0161-6420(94)31210-3

Reserved.

2026 Clinical Quality Measure Flow for Quality ID #191: Cataracts: 20/40 or Better Visual Acuity within 90 Days Following Cataract Surgery

Disclaimer: *Refer to the measure specification for specific coding and instructions to submit this measure.*



SAMPLE CALCULATIONS

Data Completeness=
Performance Met (a=50 procedures) + Performance Not Met (c=20 procedures) = 70 procedures = **87.50%**
Eligible Population / Denominator (d=80 procedures) = 80 procedures

Performance Rate=
Performance Met (a=50 procedures) = 50 procedures = **71.43%**
Data Completeness Numerator (70 procedures) = 70 procedures

*See the posted measure specification for specific coding and instructions to submit this measure.
NOTE: Submission Frequency: Procedure

2026 Clinical Quality Measure Flow Narrative for Quality ID #191 : Cataracts: 20/40 or Better Visual Acuity within 90 Days Following Cataract Surgery

Disclaimer: Refer to the measure specification for specific coding and instructions to submit this measure.

1. Start with Denominator
2. Check *Patients aged greater than or equal to 18 years on date of procedure*:
    a. If *Patients aged greater than or equal to 18 years on date of procedure* equals No, do not include in *Eligible Population/Denominator*. Stop processing.
    b. If *Patients aged greater than or equal to 18 years on date of procedure* equals Yes, proceed to check *Procedure during the performance period as listed in Denominator**.
3. Check *Procedure during the performance period as listed in Denominator*.*
    a. If *Procedure during the performance period as listed in Denominator** equals No, do not include in *Eligible Population/Denominator*. Stop processing.
    b. If *Procedure during the performance period as listed in Denominator** equals Yes, proceed to check *Modifier*.
4. Check *Modifier*:
    a. If *Modifier: 56 or 55* equals Yes, do not include in *Eligible Population/Denominator*. Stop processing.
    b. If *Modifier: 56 or 55* equals No, proceed to check *Diagnosis of significant ocular conditions that impact the visual outcome of surgery as listed in Denominator**
5. Check *Diagnosis of significant ocular conditions that impact the visual outcome of surgery as listed in Denominator**:
    a. If *Diagnosis of significant ocular conditions that impact the visual outcome of surgery as listed in Denominator** equals Yes, do not include in *Eligible Population/Denominator*. Stop processing.
    b. If *Diagnosis of significant ocular conditions that impact the visual outcome of surgery as listed in Denominator** equals No, include in *Eligible Population/Denominator*.
6. Denominator Population:
    - Denominator Population is all Eligible Procedures in the Denominator. The Denominator is represented as Denominator in the Sample Calculation listed at the end of this document. Letter d equals 80 procedures in the Sample Calculation.
7. Start Numerator

8. Check *Best-corrected visual acuity of 20/40 or better (distance or near) achieved within the 90 days following cataract surgery*:

    a. If *Best-corrected visual acuity of 20/40 or better (distance or near) achieved within the 90 days following cataract surgery* equals Yes, include in *Data Completeness Met and Performance Met*.

        - *Data Completeness Met and Performance Met* letter is represented in the Data Completeness and Performance Rate in the Sample Calculation listed at the end of this document. Letter a equals 50 procedures in the Sample Calculation.

    b. If *Best-corrected visual acuity of 20/40 or better (distance or near) achieved within the 90 days following cataract surgery* equals No, proceed to check *Best-corrected visual acuity of 20/40 or better (distance or near) not achieved within the 90 days following cataract surgery, reason not otherwise specified*.

9. Check *Best-corrected visual acuity of 20/40 or better (distance or near) not achieved within the 90 days following cataract surgery, reason not otherwise specified*:

    a. If *Best-corrected visual acuity of 20/40 or better (distance or near) not achieved within the 90 days following cataract surgery, reason not otherwise specified* equals Yes, include in *Data Completeness Met and Performance Not Met*.

        - *Data Completeness Met and Performance Not Met* letter is represented in the Data Completeness in the Sample Calculation listed at the end of this document. Letter c equals 20 procedures in the Sample Calculation.

    b. If *Best-corrected visual acuity of 20/40 or better (distance or near) not achieved within the 90 days following cataract surgery, reason not otherwise specified* equals No, proceed to check *Data Completeness Not Met*.

10. Check *Data Completeness Not Met*:

        - If *Data Completeness Not Met*, the Quality Data Code or equivalent was not submitted. 10 procedures have been subtracted from the Data Completeness Numerator in the Sample Calculation.

Sample Calculations

Data Completeness equals Performance Met (a equals 50 procedures) plus Performance Not Met (c equals 20 procedures) divided by Eligible Population/Denominator (d equals 80 procedures). All equals 70 procedures divided by 80 procedures. All equals 87.50 percent.

Performance Rate equals Performance Met (a equals 50 procedures) divided by Data Completeness Numerator (70 procedures). All equals 50 procedures divided by 70 procedures. All equals 71.43 percent.

*See the posted measure specification for specific coding and instructions to submit this

measure. NOTE: Submission Frequency: Procedure

The measure diagrams were developed by CMS as a supplemental resource to be used in conjunction with the measure specifications. They should not be used alone or as a substitution for the measure specification.