

Quality ID #457 (CBE 0216): Percentage of Patients who Died from Cancer Admitted to Hospice for Less than 3 Days (lower score – better)

2026 COLLECTION TYPE:

MERIT-BASED INCENTIVE PAYMENT SYSTEM (MIPS) CLINICAL QUALITY MEASURE (CQM)

MEASURE TYPE:

Process – High Priority

- ***INVERSE MEASURE: LOWER SCORE – BETTER***

DESCRIPTION:

Percentage of patients who died from cancer and admitted to hospice and spent less than 3 days there.

INSTRUCTIONS:

Reporting Frequency:

This measure is to be submitted a minimum of once per performance period 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 patients who died from cancer. It is anticipated that Merit-based Incentive Payment System (MIPS) eligible clinicians who provide services for patients with the diagnosis of cancer will submit 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 patient-periodic measure should be submitted a minimum of once per patient per timeframe specified by the measure for the performance period.

This is an inverse measure which means a lower calculated performance rate for this measure indicates better clinical care or control. The “Performance Not Met” numerator option for this measure is the representation of the better clinical quality or control. Submitting that numerator option will produce a performance rate that trends closer to 0%, as quality increases. For inverse measures, a rate of 100% means all of the denominator eligible patients did not receive the appropriate care or were not in proper control.

Telehealth:

TELEHEALTH ELIGIBLE: This measure is appropriate for and applicable to the telehealth setting. Patient encounters conducted via telehealth using encounter code(s) found in the denominator encounter criteria are allowed for this measure. Therefore, if the patient meets all denominator criteria for a telehealth encounter, it would be appropriate to include them in 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:

Patients who died from cancer who were admitted to hospice.

DENOMINATOR NOTE: *The patient must have two encounters during the performance period. This is intended to reflect two separate encounters with the same reporting provider/group during this timeframe. There is no specific timeframe for the requirement for the two encounters that occur during the performance period. For example, two encounters with the same provider/group could occur in the same week. However, two encounters should not be counted if they occur on the same day. For example, the patient has two encounters, and one is with a different provider on the same day.*

Denominator Criteria (Eligible Cases):

Diagnosis of cancer (ICD-10-CM): C00.0, C00.1, C00.2, C00.3, C00.4, C00.5, C00.6, C00.8, C00.9, C01, C02.0, C02.1, C02.2, C02.3, C02.4, C02.8, C02.9, C03.0, C03.1, C03.9, C04.0, C04.1, C04.8, C04.9, C05.0, C05.1, C05.2, C05.8, C05.9, C06.0, C06.1, C06.2, C06.80, C06.89, C06.9, C07, C08.0, C08.1, C08.9, C09.0, C09.1, C09.8, C09.9, C10.0, C10.1, C10.2, C10.3, C10.4, C10.8, C10.9, C11.0, C11.1, C11.2, C11.3, C11.8, C11.9, C12, C13.0, C13.1, C13.2, C13.8, C13.9, C14.0, C14.2, C14.8, C15.3, C15.4, C15.5, C15.8, C15.9, C16.0, C16.1, C16.2, C16.3, C16.4, C16.5, C16.6, C16.8, C16.9, C17.0, C17.1, C17.2, C17.3, C17.8, C17.9, C18.0, C18.1, C18.2, C18.3, C18.4, C18.5, C18.6, C18.7, C18.8, C18.9, C19, C20, C21.0, C21.1, C21.2, C21.8, C22.0, C22.1, C22.2, C22.3, C22.4, C22.7, C22.8, C22.9, C23, C24.0, C24.1, C24.8, C24.9, C25.0, C25.1, C25.2, C25.3, C25.4, C25.7, C25.8, C25.9, C26.0, C26.1, C26.9, C30.0, C30.1, C31.0, C31.1, C31.2, C31.3, C31.8, C31.9, C32.0, C32.1, C32.2, C32.3, C32.8, C32.9, C33, C34.00, C34.01, C34.02, C34.10, C34.11, C34.12, C34.2, C34.30, C34.31, C34.32, C34.80, C34.81, C34.82, C34.90, C34.91, C34.92, C37, C38.0, C38.1, C38.2, C38.3, C38.4, C38.8, C39.0, C39.9, C40.00, C40.01, C40.02, C40.10, C40.11, C40.12, C40.20, C40.21, C40.22, C40.30, C40.31, C40.32, C40.80, C40.81, C40.82, C40.90, C40.91, C40.92, C41.0, C41.1, C41.2, C41.3, C41.4, C41.9, C43.0, C43.10, C43.111, C43.112, C43.121, C43.122, C43.20, C43.21, C43.22, C43.30, C43.31, C43.39, C43.4, C43.51, C43.52, C43.59, C43.60, C43.61, C43.62, C43.70, C43.71, C43.72, C43.8, C43.9, C44.00, C44.01, C44.02, C44.09, C44.101, C44.1021, C44.1022, C44.1091, C44.1092, C44.111, C44.1121, C44.1122, C44.1191, C44.1192, C44.121, C44.1221, C44.1222, C44.1291, C44.1292, C44.131, C44.1321, C44.1322, C44.1391, C44.1392, C44.191, C44.1921, C44.1922, C44.1991, C44.1992, C44.201, C44.202, C44.209, C44.211, C44.212, C44.219, C44.221, C44.222, C44.229, C44.291, C44.292, C44.299, C44.300, C44.301, C44.309, C44.310, C44.311, C44.319, C44.320, C44.321, C44.329, C44.390, C44.391, C44.399, C44.40, C44.41, C44.42, C44.49, C44.500, C44.501, C44.509, C44.510, C44.511, C44.519, C44.520, C44.521, C44.529, C44.590, C44.591, C44.599, C44.601, C44.602, C44.609, C44.611, C44.612, C44.619, C44.621, C44.622, C44.629, C44.691, C44.692, C44.699, C44.701, C44.702, C44.709, C44.711, C44.712, C44.719, C44.721, C44.722, C44.729, C44.791, C44.792, C44.799, C44.80, C44.81, C44.82, C44.89, C44.90, C44.91, C44.92, C44.99, C45.0, C45.1, C45.2, C45.7, C45.9, C46.0, C46.1, C46.2, C46.3, C46.4, C46.50, C46.51, C46.52, C46.7, C46.9, C47.0, C47.10, C47.11, C47.12, C47.20, C47.21, C47.22, C47.3, C47.4, C47.5, C47.6, C47.8, C47.9, C48.0, C48.1, C48.2, C48.8, C49.0, C49.10, C49.11, C49.12, C49.20, C49.21, C49.22, C49.3, C49.A0, C49.A1, C49.A2, C49.A3, C49.A4, C49.A5, C49.A9, C49.4, C49.5, C49.6, C49.8, C49.9, C4A.0, C4A.10, C4A.111, C4A.112, C4A.121, C4A.122, C4A.20, C4A.21, C4A.22, C4A.30, C4A.31, C4A.39, C4A.4, C4A.51, C4A.52, C4A.59, C4A.60, C4A.61, C4A.62, C4A.70, C4A.71, C4A.72, C4A.8, C4A.9, C50.A0, C50.A1, C50.A2, C50.011, C50.012, C50.019, C50.021, C50.022, C50.029, C50.111, C50.112, C50.119, C50.121, C50.122, C50.129, C50.211, C50.212, C50.219, C50.221, C50.222, C50.229, C50.311, C50.312, C50.319, C50.321, C50.322, C50.329, C50.411, C50.412, C50.419, C50.421, C50.422, C50.429, C50.511, C50.512, C50.519, C50.521, C50.522, C50.529, C50.611, C50.612, C50.619, C50.621, C50.622, C50.629, C50.811, C50.812, C50.819, C50.821, C50.822, C50.829, C50.911, C50.912, C50.919, C50.921, C50.922, C50.929, C51.0, C51.1, C51.2, C51.8, C51.9, C52, C53.0, C53.1, C53.8, C53.9, C54.0, C54.1, C54.2, C54.3, C54.8, C54.9, C55, C56.1, C56.2, C56.3, C56.9, C57.00, C57.01, C57.02, C57.10, C57.11, C57.12, C57.20, C57.21, C57.22, C57.3, C57.4, C57.7, C57.8, C57.9, C58, C60.0, C60.1, C60.2, C60.8, C60.9, C61, C62.00,

C62.01, C62.02, C62.10, C62.11, C62.12, C62.90, C62.91, C62.92, C63.00, C63.01, C63.02, C63.10, C63.11, C63.12, C63.2, C63.7, C63.8, C63.9, C64.1, C64.2, C64.9, C65.1, C65.2, C65.9, C66.1, C66.2, C66.9, C67.0, C67.1, C67.2, C67.3, C67.4, C67.5, C67.6, C67.7, C67.8, C67.9, C68.0, C68.1, C68.8, C68.9, C69.00, C69.01, C69.02, C69.10, C69.11, C69.12, C69.20, C69.21, C69.22, C69.30, C69.31, C69.32, C69.40, C69.41, C69.42, C69.50, C69.51, C69.52, C69.60, C69.61, C69.62, C69.80, C69.81, C69.82, C69.90, C69.91, C69.92, C70.0, C70.1, C70.9, C71.0, C71.1, C71.2, C71.3, C71.4, C71.5, C71.6, C71.7, C71.8, C71.9, C72.0, C72.1, C72.20, C72.21, C72.22, C72.30, C72.31, C72.32, C72.40, C72.41, C72.42, C72.50, C72.59, C72.9, C73, C74.00, C74.01, C74.02, C74.10, C74.11, C74.12, C74.90, C74.91, C74.92, C75.0, C75.1, C75.2, C75.3, C75.4, C75.5, C75.8, C75.9, C76.0, C76.1, C76.2, C76.3, C76.40, C76.41, C76.42, C76.50, C76.51, C76.52, C76.8, C77.0, C77.1, C77.2, C77.3, C77.4, C77.5, C77.8, C77.9, C78.00, 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C84.Z1, C84.Z2, C84.Z3, C84.Z4, C84.Z5, C84.Z6, C84.Z7, C84.Z8, C84.Z9, C85.10, C85.11, C85.12, C85.13, C85.14, C85.15, C85.16, C85.17, C85.18, C85.19, C85.20, C85.21, C85.22, C85.23, C85.24, C85.25, C85.26, C85.27, C85.28, C85.29, C85.80, C85.81, C85.82, C85.83, C85.84, C85.85, C85.86, C85.87, C85.88, C85.89, C85.90, C85.91, C85.92, C85.93, C85.94, C85.95, C85.96, C85.97, C85.98, C85.99, C86.00, C86.10, C86.20, C86.30, C86.40, C86.50, C86.60, C88.00, C88.20, C88.30, C88.40, C88.80, C88.90, C90.00, C90.01, C90.02, C90.10, C90.11, C90.12, C90.20, C90.21, C90.22, C90.30, C90.31, C90.32, C91.00, C91.01, C91.02, C91.10, C91.11, C91.12, C91.30, C91.31, C91.32, C91.40, C91.41, C91.42, C91.50, C91.51, C91.52, C91.60, C91.61, C91.62, C91.90, C91.91, C91.92, C91.A0, C91.A1, C91.A2, C91.Z0, C91.Z1, C91.Z2, C92.00, C92.01, C92.02, C92.10, C92.11, C92.12, C92.20, C92.21, C92.22, C92.30, C92.31, C92.32, C92.40, C92.41, C92.42, C92.50, C92.51, C92.52, C92.60, C92.61, C92.62, C92.90, C92.91, C92.92, C92.A0, C92.A1, C92.A2, C92.Z0, C92.Z1, C92.Z2, C93.00, C93.01, C93.02, C93.10, C93.11, C93.12, C93.30, C93.31, C93.32, C93.90, C93.91, C93.92, C93.Z0, C93.Z1, C93.Z2, C94.00, C94.01, C94.02, C94.20, C94.21, C94.22, C94.30, C94.31, C94.32, C94.40, C94.41, C94.42, C94.6, C94.80, C94.81, C94.82, C95.00, C95.01, C95.02, C95.10, C95.11, C95.12, C95.90, C95.91, C95.92, C96.0, C96.20, C96.21, C96.22, C96.29, C96.4, C96.5, C96.6, C96.9, C96.A, C96.Z, D37.01, D37.02, D37.030, D37.031, D37.032, D37.039, D37.04, D37.05, D37.09, D37.1, D37.2,

D37.3, D37.4, D37.5, D37.6, D37.8, D37.9, D38.0, D38.1, D38.2, D38.3, D38.4, D38.5, D38.6, D39.0, D39.10, D39.11, D39.12, D39.2, D39.8, D39.9, D40.0, D40.10, D40.11, D40.12, D40.8, D40.9, D41.00, D41.01, D41.02, D41.10, D41.11, D41.12, D41.20, D41.21, D41.22, D41.3, D41.4, D41.8, D41.9, D42.0, D42.1, D42.9, D43.0, D43.1, D43.2, D43.3, D43.4, D43.8, D43.9, D44.0, D44.10, D44.11, D44.12, D44.2, D44.3, D44.4, D44.5, D44.6, D44.7, D44.9, D45, D46.0, D46.1, D46.20, D46.21, D46.22, D46.4, D46.9, D46.A, D46.B, D46.C, D46.Z, D47.01, D47.02, D47.09, D47.1, D47.2, D47.3, D47.4, D47.9, D47.Z1, D47.Z2, D47.Z9, D48.0, D48.19, D48.2, D48.3, D48.4, D48.5, D48.60, D48.61, D48.62, D48.7, D48.9, D49.0, D49.1, D49.2, D49.3, D49.4, D49.511, D49.512, D49.519, D49.59, D49.6, D49.7, D49.81, D49.89, D49.9

AND

At least two patient encounters during performance period (CPT): 98000, 98001, 98002, 98003, 98004, 98005, 98006, 98007, 98008, 98009, 98010, 98011, 98012, 98013, 98014, 98015, 99202, 99203, 99204, 99205, 99212, 99213, 99214, 99215

AND

Patient enrolled in hospice: G9858

AND

Patients who died from cancer: G9859

NUMERATOR:

Patients who died from cancer and spent fewer than three days in hospice.

Numerator Instructions:

INVERSE MEASURE – A lower calculated performance rate for this measure indicates better clinical care or control. The “Performance Not Met” numerator option for this measure is the representation of the better clinical quality or control. Submitting that numerator option will produce a performance rate that trends closer to 0%, as quality increases. For inverse measures, a rate of 100% means all of the denominator eligible patients did not receive the appropriate care or were not in proper control.

Numerator Options:

Performance Not Met:

Patient spent greater than or equal to three days in hospice care (G9861)

OR

Performance Met:

Patient spent less than three days in hospice care (G9860)

RATIONALE:

The Institute of Medicine’s report, Dying in America, advocates for measures to improve the quality and sustainability of end-of-life care, urging the federal government to “require public reporting on quality measures, outcomes, and costs regarding care near the end-of-life” (Daly et al., 2016). Hospice care is a form of palliative care for patients with a limited life expectancy of six months or less (according to Medicare hospice coverage criteria) who want to focus on quality of life and comfort rather than life-prolonging care. Most insurance plans provide coverage for hospice (ICSI Guideline, 2020).

In 2021 the median length of hospice stay among Medicare beneficiaries was 17 days (MedPAC, 2023). Approximately 28% of hospice patients died or were discharged within 7 days of admission to hospice care (NCCN Guidelines, 2024). This is despite the fact that the hospice benefit is at least six months or longer if needed. This short length of stay means that the patient, family, and care team have limited time to get a plan of care in place before death, and that the focus tends to be more on the care of the imminently dying patient than living life to the fullest before the final decline in function. Early referral to hospice increases the likelihood that pain and other symptoms will be managed more aggressively and therefore there will be less anxiety and distress at the end of life (ICSI Guideline, 2020).

One retrospective study of more than 64,000 patients with cancer who were admitted to hospice found that over 16% of those patients were only enrolled in the last three days of life or less (O’Connor, 2015). The rate of patients who do not have a hospice referral prior to death continues to be higher than desired with one study reporting that more than 30% of patients were not referred and of those patients, only 7% had a documented discussion on the option of palliative care (O’Connor, 2015).

Patients enrolled in hospice experience increased survival times along with a reduction in resource use such as aggressive end of life care and hospital admissions; benefits that increased the longer patients are enrolled in hospice (Lee, 2015; Langton, 2014).

CLINICAL RECOMMENDATION STATEMENTS:

This measure is based on ASCO and National Comprehensive Cancer Network (NCCN) Guidelines:

1. Clinicians should refer patients with advanced solid tumors and hematologic malignancies to specialized interdisciplinary palliative care teams that provide inpatient and outpatient care early in the course of disease, alongside active treatment of their cancer (Moderate, Strong) (ASCO, 2024).
2. Palliative care for patients with advanced cancer should be delivered through interdisciplinary palliative care teams, with consultation available in both outpatient and inpatient settings (Intermediate, Moderate) (ASCO, 2024).
3. Patients with advanced cancer should receive palliative care services, which may include a referral to a palliative care provider. Essential components of palliative care include (Intermediate, Moderate) (ASCO 2024):
 - Rapport and relationship building with patient and family caregivers
 - Symptom, distress, and functional status management (eg, pain, dyspnea, fatigue, sleep disturbance, mood, nausea, or constipation)
 - Exploration of understanding and education about illness and prognosis
 - Clarification of treatment goals
 - Assessment and support of coping and spiritual needs
 - Assistance with medical decision making
 - Coordination with other care providers
 - Provision of referrals to other care providers as indicated
4. Patients with months to weeks to live should be provided with guidance regarding the anticipated course of the disease. Physicians should reassess prognostic awareness and goals of therapy. As functional status worsens, these patients may become more concerned about the side effects of cancer-directed treatment and consider focusing their care on maintaining quality of life. The option of discontinuing anticancer treatment not directly addressing a symptom complex and initiating goal-directed supportive care should be discussed, including referral to specialized palliative care services or hospice (Category 2A) (NCCN, 2024). In general, patients with weeks to days to live (eg, dying patients) and comfort-oriented goals should discontinue all treatments not directly contributing to patient comfort. Intensive palliative care focusing on symptom management should be provided in addition to preparation for the dying process. Referral for hospice care should be placed, if not already done. (Category 2A) (NCCN, 2024).

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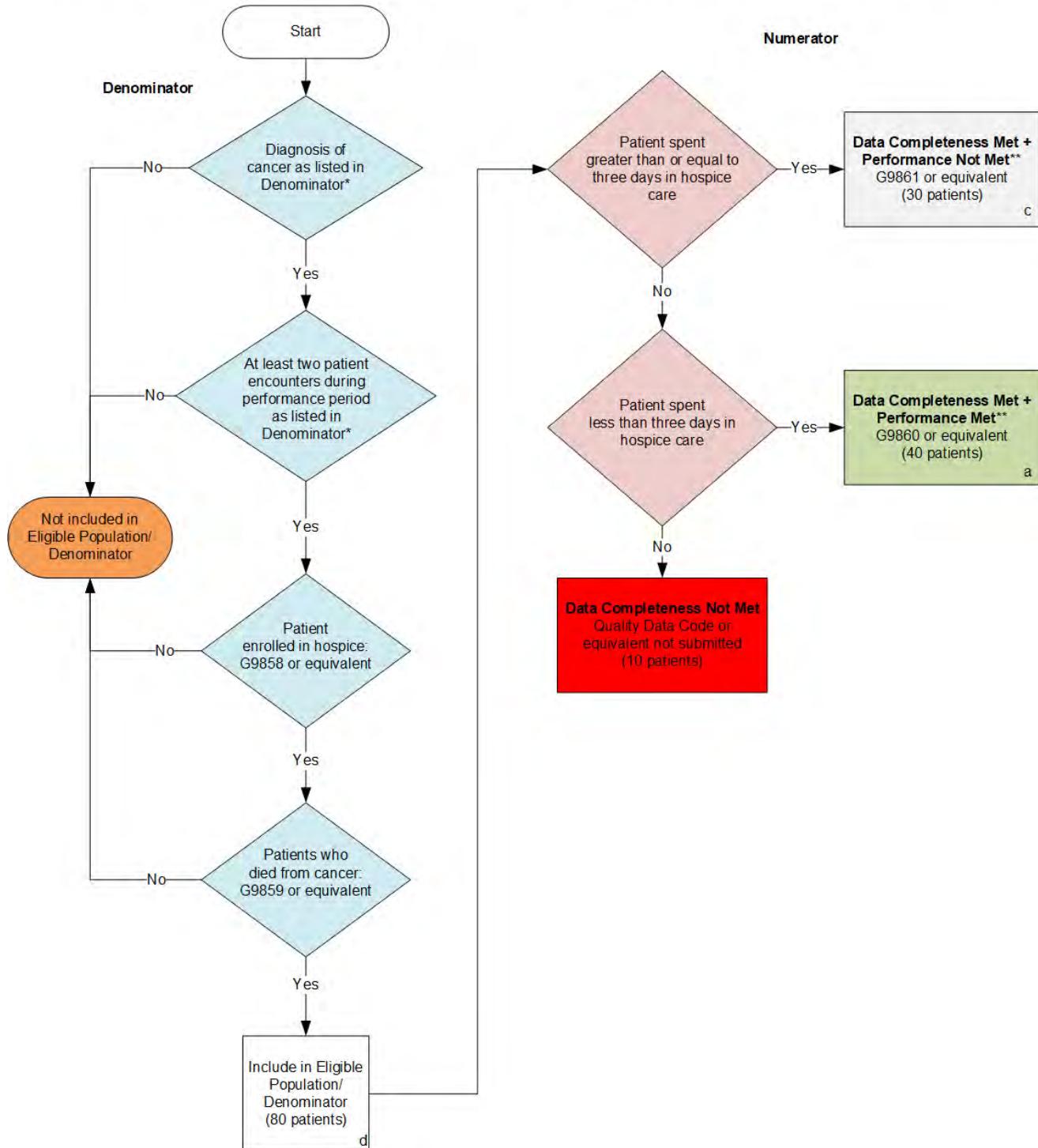
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**2026 Clinical Quality Measure Flow for Quality ID #457 (CBE 0216):
Percentage of Patients who Died from Cancer Admitted to Hospice
for Less than 3 Days**

INVERSE MEASURE: LOWER SCORE – BETTER

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



SAMPLE CALCULATIONS

Data Completeness=

Performance Met (a=40 patients) + Performance Not Met (c=30 patients) = 70 patients = **87.50%**
Eligible Population / Denominator (d=80 patients) = 80 patients

Performance Rate=

Performance Met (a=40 patients) = 40 patients = **57.14%**
Data Completeness Numerator (70 patients) = 70 patients

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

**A lower calculated performance rate for this measure indicates better clinical care or control.

NOTE: Submission Frequency: Patient-Periodic

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2026 Clinical Quality Measure Flow Narrative for Quality ID #457 (CBE 0216):
Percentage of Patients who Died from Cancer Admitted to Hospice
for Less than 3 Days

INVERSE MEASURE: LOWER SCORE - BETTER

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

1. Start with Denominator
2. Check *Diagnosis of cancer as listed in Denominator**:
 - a. If *Diagnosis of cancer as listed in Denominator** equals No, do not include in *Eligible Population/Denominator*. Stop processing.
 - b. If *Diagnosis of cancer as listed in Denominator** equals Yes, proceed to check *At least two patient encounters during performance period as listed in Denominator**
3. Check *At least two patient encounters during performance period as listed in Denominator**:
 - a. If *At least two patient encounters during performance period as listed in Denominator** equals No, do not include in *Eligible Population/Denominator*. Stop processing.
 - b. If *At least two patient encounters during performance period as listed in Denominator** equals Yes, proceed to check *Patient enrolled in hospice*.
4. Check *Patient enrolled in hospice*:
 - a. If *Patient enrolled in hospice* equals No, do not include in *Eligible Population/Denominator*. Stop processing.
 - b. If *Patient enrolled in hospice* equals Yes, proceed to check *Patients who died from cancer*.
5. Check *Patients who died from cancer*:
 - a. If *Patients who died from cancer* equals No, do not include in *Eligible Population/Denominator*. Stop processing.
 - b. If *Patients who died from cancer* equals Yes, include in *Eligible Population/Denominator*.
6. Denominator Population:
 - Denominator Population is all Eligible Patients in the Denominator. Denominator is represented as Denominator in the Sample Calculation listed at the end of this document. Letter d equals 80 patients in the Sample Calculation.
7. Start Numerator
8. Check Patient spent greater than or equal to three days in hospice care:
 - a. If Patient spent greater than or equal to three days in hospice care 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 30 patients in the Sample Calculation.

- b. If Patient spent greater than or equal to three days in hospice care equals No, proceed to check Patient spent less than three days in hospice care.
9. Check *Patient spent less than three days in hospice care*:
 - a. If *Patient spent less than three days in hospice care* 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 40 patients in the Sample Calculation.
 - b. If *Patient spent less than three days in hospice care* 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 patients have been subtracted from the Data Completeness Numerator in the Sample Calculation.

Sample Calculations:

Data Completeness equals Performance Met (a equals 40 patients) plus Performance Not Met (c equals 30 patients) divided by Eligible Population/Denominator (d equals 80 patients). All equals 70 patients divided by 80 patients. All equals 87.50 percent.

Performance Rate equals Performance Met (a equals 40 patients) divided by Data Completeness Numerator (70 patients). All equals 40 patients divided by 70 patients. All equals 57.14 percent.

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

**A lower calculated performance rate for this measure indicates better clinical care or control.

NOTE: Submission Frequency: Patient-Periodic

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