

Measure Description

The percentage of members 5-85 years of age who were identified as having persistent asthma and had a ratio of controller medications to total asthma medications of .50 or greater during the measurement year.

Using Correct Billing Codes

Codes to Identify Asthma

Description	Codes
Asthma	ICD-9: 493.00-493.02, 493.10-493.12, 493.81, 493.82, 493.90-493.92
	ICD-10: J45.20, J45.21, J45.22, J45.30-J45.32, J45.40-J45.42, J45.50-J45.52, J45.901, J45.902, J45.909, J45.990, J45.991, J45.998

* ICD-10 -CM codes are to be used on or after 10/1/2015.

Asthma Controller & Reliever Medications

Description	Asthma Controller Medications - Prescription		
Antiasthmatic Combinations	• Dyphylline-guaifenesin	• Guaifemesin-theophylline	
Antibody Inhibitor	• Omalizumba		
Inhaled Steroid Combinations	• Budesonide-formoterol	• Fluticasone-salmeterol	• Mometasone-formoterol
Inhaled Corticosteroids	• Beclomethasone • Budesonide	• Ciclesonide • Flunisolide	• Fluticasone CFC free • Mometasone
Leukotriene Modifiers	• Montelukast	• Zafirlukast	• Zileuton
Mast Cell Stabilizers	• Cromolyn		
Methylxanthines	• Aminophylline	• Dyphylline	• Theophylline
Description	Asthma Reliever Medications - Prescription		
Short-acting, inhaled bet2 agonist	• Albuterol	• Levalbuterol	• Pirbuterol

How to Improve HEDIS® Scores

- Ensure proper coding to avoid coding asthma if not formally diagnosing asthma and only asthma-like symptoms were present (e.g., wheezing during a viral URI and acute bronchitis is not 'asthma').
- Educate patients on use of asthma medications.
- Prescribe a long-term controller medication as well as a short-term 'rescue' inhaler.
- Use the opportunity list and contact patients who have not filled a controller medication.