

Appropriate Treatment for Upper Respiratory Infection (URI)

New for 2023

Updated

- Members who died during the measurement year is now a required exclusion

Definition

Percentage of episodes for members 3 months and older who were given a diagnosis of upper respiratory infection (URI) between July 1 of the year prior to the measurement year through June 30 of the measurement year and were **not** dispensed an antibiotic prescription on or 3 days after the diagnosis day (4 days total).

| Plan(s) Affected | Quality Program(s) Affected | Collection and Reporting Method |
|--|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commercial • Exchange/Marketplace • Medicaid • Medicare | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CMS Quality Rating System • NCQA Accreditation • NCQA Health Plan Ratings | Administrative <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Claim/Encounter Data • Pharmacy Data |

Codes

The following codes can be used to close HEDIS® numerator gaps in care; they are not intended to be a directive of your billing practice.

| Upper Respiratory Infection Codes That Do Not Need Antibiotics | |
|---|------------------------------|
| ICD-10 Diagnosis | J00, J06.0, J06.9 |
| SNOMED | 43692000, 54398005, 82272006 |

Appropriate Treatment for Upper Respiratory Infection (URI)

Medications

The following antibiotic medications should **not** be prescribed for an upper respiratory infection:

| Drug Category | Medications |
|--|---|
| Aminoglycosides | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Amikacin • Gentamicin • Streptomycin • Tobramycin |
| Aminopenicillins | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Amoxicillin • Ampicillin |
| Beta-lactamase inhibitors | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Amoxicillin-clavulanate • Ampicillin-sulbactam • Piperacillin-tazobactam |
| First generation cephalosporins | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cefadroxil • Cefazolin • Cephalexin |
| Fourth generation cephalosporins | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cefepime |
| Lincomycin derivatives | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clindamycin • Lincomycin |
| Macrolides | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Azithromycin • Clarithromycin • Erythromycin |
| Miscellaneous antibiotics | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aztreonam • Chloramphenicol • Dalfopristin-quinupristin • Daptomycin • Linezolid • Metronidazole • Vancomycin |
| Natural penicillins | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Penicillin G benzathine-procaine • Penicillin G potassium • Penicillin G procaine • Penicillin G sodium • Penicillin V potassium • Penicillin G benzathine |
| Penicillinase-resistant penicillins | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dicloxacillin • Nafcillin • Oxacillin |

(Medications continued)

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Medications

The following antibiotic medications should **not** be prescribed for an upper respiratory infection:

| Drug Category | Medications |
|---|---|
| Quinolones | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ciprofloxacin • Gemifloxacin • Levofloxacin • Moxifloxacin • Ofloxacin |
| Rifamycin derivatives | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rifampin |
| Second generation cephalosporins | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cefaclor • Cefotetan • Cefoxitin • Cefprozil • Cefuroxime |
| Sulfonamides | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sulfadiazine • Sulfamethoxazole-trimethoprim |
| Tetracyclines | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Doxycycline • Minocycline • Tetracycline |
| Third generation cephalosporins | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cefdinir • Cefixime • Cefotaxime • Cefpodoxime • Ceftazidime • Ceftriaxone |
| Urinary anti-infectives | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fosfomycin • Nitrofurantoin • Nitrofurantoin macrocrystals-monohydrate • Trimethoprim |

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Required Exclusion(s)

| Exclusion | Timeframe |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Members in hospice or using hospice services Members who died | - Any time during the measurement year |
| <p>Exclude episode dates when the member had a claim with any of the below diagnoses:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> HIV Malignant Neoplasms Malignant Neoplasms of the Skin Emphysema COPD Disorders of the Immune Systems | - During the 12 months prior to or on the episode date |



Important Notes

Medical Record Detail Including, But Not Limited to

This measure addresses appropriate diagnosis and treatment for upper respiratory infections **without** prescribing an antibiotic.

An upper respiratory infection diagnosis can be from an outpatient, telephone, e-visit, virtual check-in, observation or emergency department visit between July 1 of the year prior to the measurement year and June 30 of the measurement year.

Members who have a competing diagnosis of pharyngitis on or 3 days after the diagnosis of upper respiratory infection should be excluded.

- History and physical
- Progress notes

Tips and Best Practices to Help Close This Care Opportunity

- Please check your Patient Care Opportunity Report (PCOR) often to see members with open care opportunities.** If you have questions, your UnitedHealthcare representative can help.
- Details on the appropriate treatment of URIs are available at [cdc.gov](https://www.cdc.gov).