

Measure 18 (NQF# 0088): Diabetic Retinopathy: Documentation of Presence or Absence of Macular Edema and Level of Severity of Retinopathy

eMeasure Identifier: CMS167v3

Reporting Options: EHR

Quality Domain: Effective Clinical Care

Description: Percentage of patients aged 18 years and older with a diagnosis of diabetic retinopathy who had a dilated macular or fundus exam performed which included documentation of the level of severity of retinopathy and the presence or absence of macular edema during one or more office visits within 12 months.

Instructions: This measure is to be reported a minimum of once per reporting period for patients who had a dilated macular or fundus exam performed which included documentation of the level of severity of retinopathy AND the presence or absence of macular edema during one or more office visits within 12 months.

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 ICD-9-CM and SNOMED-CT do 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 professional will record laterality in the patient medical record, as quality care and clinical documentation should include laterality.

Definition:

Documentation: The medical record must include:

- Documentation of the level of severity of retinopathy and
- Documentation of whether macular edema was present or absent.

Macular edema: Acceptable synonyms for macular edema include intraretinal thickening, serous detachment of the retina, or pigment epithelial detachment

Severity of retinopathy: Mild nonproliferative, moderate nonproliferative, severe nonproliferative, very severe nonproliferative, proliferative

Inpatient Patient Population: All patients aged 18 years and older with a diagnosis of diabetic retinopathy

Denominator: Equals Initial Patient Population

Denominator exceptions:

- Documentation of medical reason(s) for not performing a dilated macular or fundus examination
- Documentation of patient reason(s) for not performing a dilated macular or fundus examination

Clinical Recommendation Statements: Since treatment is effective in reducing the risk of visual loss, detailed examination is indicated to assess for the following features that often lead to visual impairment:

- Presence of macular edema
- Optic nerve neovascularization and/or neovascularization elsewhere,
- Signs of severe NPDR (extensive retinal hemorrhages/microaneurysms, venous beading, and IRMA), and vitreous or preretinal hemorrhage