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HEDIS Hints

Appropriate Testing for Pharyngitis (CWP)

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- What does NCQA's Appropriate Testing for Pharyngitis (CWP) Measure?
- Examples of Best Practices Documentation
- Coding to Improve this HEDIS Measure
- Questions

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What is NCQA's CWP Measure?

- The CWP measure monitors the percentage of episodes for members 3 years and older where the member was:
  - diagnosed with pharyngitis
  - dispensed an antibiotic
  - and received a group A streptococcus (strep) test

- The look back period for this measure begins July 1 of the year prior to the measurement year and ends on June 30 of the measurement year.

- This measure looks for the date of service for any outpatient, telephone, observation or ED visit, e-visit or virtual check-in during the look back period with a diagnosis of pharyngitis.

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What is NCQA's CWP Measure?

- The age stratifications for this measures are:
  - 3-17 years old
  - 18-64 years old
  - 65 years and older
  - Total (sum of tall stratifications)

- A member may be in this measure for multiple episodes.

- This measure **is only an administrative measure** which means that the only way to get credit for this is to submit the appropriate code on a claim.

- Health Partners Plans **may not perform** medical record review for the AAP measure.

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Examples of Best Practices Documentation

- Perform a rapid strep test and/or a throat culture to confirm diagnosis before prescribing antibiotics.
- Do not treat any sign/symptoms of possible strep throat with antibiotics unless a rapid strep test and/or a throat culture is performed.
- Document results of the rapid strep test and/or they throat culture.
- Document refusals of testing for strep by members.
- Submit co-morbid diagnosis coded that apply to the visit on the claim.
- Document and code accurately if antibiotics are prescribed for another condition.

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Examples of Best Practices Documentation

- Educate patients, parents and families on:
  - Difference between viral and bacterial infections.
  - Inappropriate use of antibiotics.
  - Explain other causes for sore throats such as colds or allergies.
  - Offers ways to treat symptoms such as:
    - Increased fluids by mouth
    - Over the counter medicines
    - Cool mist vaporizer
    - Throat lozenges
    - Rest
  - Explain ways to prevent infection:
    - Wash hands frequently
    - Clean children's toys
    - Wipe down frequently touched areas with disinfectant wipes

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Coding to Improve this HEDIS Measure

- **ICD-10:**
  - Pharyngitis: J02.0, J02.8, J02.9, J03.00, J03.01, J03.80. J03.81, J03.90, J03.91
- **CPT:**
  - Group A strep tests: 87070, 87071, 87081, 87430, 87650, 87651, 87652, 87880
  - Online assessments: 98970, 98971, 98972, 99421, 99422, 99423, 99457
  - Telephone visits: 98966, 98967, 98968, 99441,99442, 99443
- **HCPCS:**
  - Online assessments: G0071, G2010, G2012

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Questions?

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