HEDIS® 2017 MEASURE: CHLAMYDIA SCREENING IN WOMEN (CHL)

Percentage of women 16-24 years of age who were identified as sexually active and who had at least one Chlamydia test during the measurement year.

Inclusion into the measure can include the following two events:
- Women with at least one chlamydia test during the measurement period.
- Women 16-24 years old as of December 31st of the measurement year who were identified as sexually active.
  - **Sexually Active**: Two methods identify sexually active women: medication data and electronic data. The organization must use both methods to identify the eligible population; however, a patient only needs to be identified in one method to be eligible for the measure.
    1. **Medication Data**:
       - **Pharmacy Data**: Patients who were dispensed prescription contraception (i.e., oral contraceptives, intrauterine device (IUD), diaphragm, or other prescribed contraceptive) during the measurement year.
       - **Prescription Data**: Patients who were prescribed contraceptives (i.e., oral contraceptives, IUD, diaphragm, or other prescribed contraceptive) during the measurement year.
    2. **Electronic Data**: Patients who had a claim or encounter indicating sexual activity during the measurement year.

**Exclusions**:
- Members who were included in the measure based on a pregnancy test alone and who meet either of the following:
  - A pregnancy test and a prescription for isotretinoin (Retinoid) on the date of the pregnancy test or the 6 days after the pregnancy test.
  - A pregnancy test and an x-ray on the date of the pregnancy test or the 6 days after the pregnancy test.
- Members in hospice care are excluded from the eligible population.

**HOW TO IMPROVE YOUR HEDIS SCORE:**
- Use complete and accurate Value Set Codes.
- Timely submit claims and encounter data. Note that claim submission dates vary by payer.
- For all those on birth control pills, make chlamydia screening a standard lab.
- Remember that chlamydia screening can be performed through a simple urine test; offer this as an option for your patients.
- Diagnosis is easy and non-invasive; pelvic exam is NOT needed for diagnosis.
- Chlamydia screening can be performed through a simple urine test; offer this as an option for your patients.
- Perform annual chlamydia screening on every 16-24 year old patient identified as sexually active (use any visit opportunity).
- Take a confidential sexual history with adolescent patients.
- Offer chlamydia or STD patient educational resources to all sexually active females ages 16-24.
- Explain the complications of undiagnosed and untreated sexually transmitted infections (STIs).
- Review gaps in care list to identify patients that meet the criteria and need a screening.
- Focus on chlamydia screening as a tool to prevent serious infections and lifelong gynecological problems.
- Make discussion of this screening a standard part of any discussion of every visit.
- Use all medical visits, including well visits, sick visits, and sports physicals as an opportunity to update needed screenings.
- For larger practices, remind providers about screening guidelines and the negative consequences of undetected chlamydia infection. Also help providers identify eligible members for screening and suggestions for approaching their patients about such a sensitive topic.
- Set up EMR alerts to:
  - Flag patients due for a screening either in practice management when scheduling or within the EMR during the visit.
  - Trigger staff to make reminder phone calls.
- Use standardized templates in charts and in EMRs that allow checkboxes for standard counseling activities.

### Codes used to identify tests and sexual activity

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>CPT</th>
<th>HCPCS</th>
<th>ICD-10-CM</th>
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<td>Chlamydia Tests</td>
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### Codes used to identify pregnancy

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<td>Additional codes can be found in the ‘Pregnancy Value Set’</td>
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### Codes used to identify exclusions

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<td>Hospice Services</td>
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