

DOCUMENTATION TIPS

Measure 431: Preventive Care and Screening: Unhealthy Alcohol Use: Screening & Brief Counseling

Electronic health records (EHRs) collect and organize notes, medication lists, and patient information using various formats. With providers also documenting this information in unique ways, this can potentially cause confusion and an increased timeline for measure mapping with DataDerm. This tip sheet can help you manage reporting requirements for performance measures and streamline standard documentation practices to allow seamless data pull into DataDerm.

The DataDerm team will work with you to connect DataDerm with your EHR to extract data. To make the process as smooth as possible, it helps to document key elements of patient care. DataDerm cannot read scanned images of any kind, including scanned images for labs, letters to physicians, pathology reports, follow-up plans, and dates. If you have scanned images with information needed for your measures, please add a note in your chart with the date and required patient information for this data to be accurately collected.

This tip sheet can assist paper-based practices in standardizing documentation practices. Keeping notes in the patient's paper chart of all documentation requirements will assist you when reporting for this measure.

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For all patients 18 years and older, document the following in your notes:

- The CPT or HCPCS code for **at least two patient encounters** during the performance period (90791, 90792, 90832, 90834, 90837, 90845, 96150, 96151, 96152, 97165, 97166, 97167, 97168, 97802, 97803, 97804, 99201, 99202, 99203, 99204, 99205, 99212, 99213, 99214, 99215, G0270, G0271)

OR

- The CPT or HCPCS code for **at least one preventative patient encounter** during the performance period (96160, 96161, 99385, 99386, 99387, 99395, 99396, 99397, 99401, 99402, 99403, 99404, 99411, 99412, 99429, G0438, G0439)
- Note in the patient medical record if applicable:
 - Patients who were screened for unhealthy alcohol use using a systematic screening method at least once within the last 24 months
 - Systematic screening methods and thresholds for defining unhealthy alcohol use include:
 - AUDIT Screening Instrument (score ≥ 8) AUDIT-C Screening Instrument (score ≥ 4 for men; score ≥ 3 for women)
 - Single Question Screening - How many times in the past year have you had 5 (for men) or 4 (for women and all adults older than 65 years) or more drinks in a day?
 - (response ≥ 2)

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- Received brief counseling if identified as an unhealthy alcohol user
 - Brief counseling for unhealthy alcohol use refers to one or more counseling sessions, a minimum of 5-15 minutes, which may include:
 - Feedback on alcohol use and harms
 - Identification of high-risk situations for drinking and coping strategies
 - Increased motivation and the development of a personal plan to reduce drinking
- If alcohol screening is not provided, document medical reason(s) for not performing the screening. If applicable, include:
 - Limited life expectancy; or
 - Other medical reason

Additional Tips:

- Collect for **once per performance period** during the performance period.
- In the event that a patient is screened for unhealthy alcohol use and identified as a user but did not receive brief alcohol cessation counseling submit G9624.
- See measure specifications for additional codes that can assist in seamless measure mapping from your EHR to DataDerm, if applicable (e.g. G9621).
- GQ, GT, 95, and POS 02 telehealth modifiers make cases ineligible.