



2026 Medicare Part B Claims Specifications Release Notes

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2026 Measure Specifications for Medicare Part B Claims Release Notes

CMS is pleased to announce the release of the 2026 Individual Measure Specifications for Medicare Part B Claims collection type Release Notes. Measure developers, professional organizations, and other stakeholders have provided comments, clarifications and technical corrections. The list below details changes to existing measures made since the release of the 2025 QPP Measure Specifications.

Global Edits to Measure Specifications:

- All specifications reformatted
 - Updated Instructions to include more specific subcomponents: Reporting Frequency, Intent and Clinician Applicability, Measure Strata and Performance Rates, Telehealth, Measure Submission, and Implementation Considerations
 - Added Reference Coding section, as applicable
 - Denominator Exclusions brought into the Denominator Criteria, as applicable
 - Reordered Numerator Options for measures with an Inverse Analytic
 - Added a References section
- Updated Copyright
- Updated Measure Flows and Flow Narratives

Quality ID #001 (CBE 0059): Diabetes: Glycemic Status Assessment Greater Than 9%

- Added Denominator Exclusion reference coding for frailty: R29.6
- Added Denominator Exclusion reference coding for advanced illness: G35.A, G35.B0, G35.B1, G35.B2, G35.C0, G35.C1, G35.C2, G35.D
- Removed Denominator Exclusion reference coding for advanced illness: G35

Quality ID #024: Communication with the Physician or Other Clinician Managing On-Going Care Post-Fracture for Men and Women Aged 50 Years and Older

- Updated Denominator Statement and Denominator Criteria
- Removed “Option 2” section of Denominator “Diagnosis for a fracture, expect fracture of the finger, toe, face or skull”.
- Removed Denominator Procedure Coding, CPT: 98000, 98001, 98002, 98003, 98004, 98005, 98006, 98008, 98009, 98010, 98011, 98012, 98013, 98014, 98015, 90816

Quality ID #039: Screening for Osteoporosis for Women Aged 65-85 Years of Age

- CBE endorsement removed

Quality ID #047 (CBE 0326): Advance Care Plan

- Global Updates Only

Quality ID #112: Breast Cancer Screening

- CBE endorsement removed
- Added Denominator Coding, CPT: 98979, 99470
- Added Denominator Exclusion reference coding for frailty: R29.6
- Added Denominator Exclusion reference coding for advanced illness: G35.A, G35.B0, G35.B1, G35.B2, G35.C0, G35.C1, G35.C2, G35.D
- Removed Denominator Exclusion reference coding for advanced illness: G35
- Updated Numerator Definition: Reviewed
- Updated Numerator Note

Quality ID #113: Colorectal Cancer Screening

- CBE endorsement removed
- Added Denominator Coding, CPT: 98979, 99470
- Added Denominator Exclusion reference coding for frailty: R29.6
- Added Denominator Exclusion reference coding for advanced illness: G35.A, G35.B0, G35.B1, G35.B2, G35.C0, G35.C1, G35.C2, G35.D
- Removed Denominator Exclusion reference coding for advanced illness: G35
- Updated Numerator Definition: Reviewed
- Updated Numerator Note

Quality ID #128: Preventive Care and Screening: Body Mass Index (BMI) Screening and Follow-Up Plan

- Added 'Without Encounters conducted via telehealth: M1431' to Denominator Criteria
- Removed 'Telehealth Modifier (including but not limited to): GQ, GT, POS 02, POS 10'

Quality ID #134: Preventive Care and Screening: Screening for Depression and Follow-Up Plan

- Updated Denominator Definition
- Added Denominator Criteria Coding, CPT: 59425, 59426
- Updated Clinical Recommendations Statements

Quality ID #141: Primary Open-Angle Glaucoma (POAG): Reduction of Intraocular Pressure (IOP) by 20% OR Documentation of a Plan of Care

- Updated Denominator Criteria Diagnosis for primary open-angle glaucoma
- Added 'Without Encounters conducted via telehealth: M1432' to Denominator Criteria
- Removed 'Without Telehealth Modifier (including but not limited to): GQ, GT, POS 02, POS 10'

Quality ID #145: Radiology: Exposure Dose Indices Reported for Procedures Using Fluoroscopy:

- Updated Denominator Criteria Procedure
- Removed Denominator Coding, CPT: 37220, 37221, 37224, 37225, 37226, 37227, 37228, 37229, 37230, 37231, 75842, 75956, 75957, 75958, 75959
- Added Denominator Coding, CPT: 37254, 37256, 37258, 37260, 37263, 37265, 37267, 37269, 37271, 37273, 37275, 37277, 37280, 37282, 37284, 37286, 37288, 37290, 37292, 37294, 37296, 37298
- Removed 'Without Telehealth Modifier (including but not limited to): GQ, GT, POS 02, POS 10'

Quality ID #181: Elder Maltreatment Screen and Follow-Up Plan

- Added 'Without Encounters conducted via telehealth: M1437' to Denominator Criteria
- Removed 'Telehealth Modifier (including but not limited to): GQ, GT, POS 02, POS 10'

Quality ID #226 (CBE 0028): Preventive Care and Screening: Tobacco Use: Screening and Cessation Intervention

- Added Denominator Coding, CPT: 98979, 99470 (Submission Criteria 1, 2, and 3)

Quality ID #236: Controlling High Blood Pressure

- Updated Denominator Note
- Added Denominator Coding, CPT: 99470
- Added Denominator Exclusion reference coding for frailty: R29.6
- Added Denominator Exclusion reference coding for advanced illness: G35.A, G35.B0, G35.B1, G35.B2, G35.C0, G35.C1, G35.C2, G35.D
- Removed Denominator Exclusion reference coding for advanced illness: G35

Quality ID #249: Barrett's Esophagus

- Removed 'Without Telehealth Modifier (including but not limited to): GQ, GT, POS 02, POS 10'

Quality ID #250: Radical Prostatectomy Pathology Reporting

- Removed 'Without Telehealth Modifier (including but not limited to): GQ, GT, POS 02, POS 10'

Quality ID #261: Referral for Otologic Evaluation for Patients with Acute or Chronic Dizziness

- Added 'Without Encounters conducted via telehealth: M1440' to Denominator Criteria
- Removed 'Telehealth Modifier (including but not limited to): GQ, GT, POS 02, POS 10'

Quality ID #317: Preventive Care and Screening: Screening for High Blood Pressure and Follow-Up Documented

- Added 'Without Encounters conducted via telehealth: M1442' to Denominator Criteria
- Removed 'Without Telehealth Modifier (including but not limited to): GQ, GT, POS 02, POS 10'
- Added Denominator Coding, CPT: 92532, 92534, 99242, 99243, 99244, 99245

Quality ID #320 (CBE 0658): Appropriate Follow-Up Interval for Normal Colonoscopy in Average Risk Patients

- Removed 'Without Telehealth Modifier (including but not limited to): GQ, GT, POS 02, POS 10'

Quality ID #395: Lung Cancer Reporting (Biopsy/Cytology Specimens)

- Updated Denominator Criteria Procedure
- Removed 'Without Telehealth Modifier (including but not limited to): GQ, GT, POS 02, POS 10'

Quality ID #396: Lung Cancer Reporting (Resection Specimens)

- Removed 'Without Telehealth Modifier (including but not limited to): GQ, GT, POS 02, POS 10'

Quality ID #397:

- Removed 'Without Telehealth Modifier (including but not limited to): GQ, GT, POS 02, POS 10'

Quality ID #405: Appropriate Follow-up Imaging for Incidental Abdominal Lesions

- Updated Denominator Note
- Added Denominator Definition: Simple-appearing Criteria
- Removed 'Without Telehealth Modifier (including but not limited to): GQ, GT, POS 02, POS 10'

Quality ID #406: Appropriate Follow-up Imaging for Incidental Thyroid Nodules in Patients

- Updated Denominator Criteria language to 'Patient procedure during the performance period'
- Removed 'Without Telehealth Modifier (including but not limited to): GQ, GT, POS 02, POS 10'

Quality ID #418: Osteoporosis Management in Women Who Had a Fracture

- CBE endorsement removed
- Removed "Option 2" section of Denominator and streamlined to include one section for "Diagnosis for a fracture, expect fracture of the finger, toe, face or skull".
- Added Denominator Coding, CPT: 98979, 99470
- Added Denominator Exclusion reference coding for frailty: R29.6
- Added Denominator Exclusion reference coding for advanced illness: G35.A, G35.B0, G35.B1, G35.B2, G35.C0, G35.C1, G35.C2, G35.D
- Removed Denominator Exclusion reference coding for advanced illness: G35
- Updated Numerator Note

Quality ID #422 (CBE 2063): Performing Cystoscopy at the Time of Hysterectomy for Pelvic Organ Prolapse to Detect Lower Urinary Tract Injury

- Removed 'Without Telehealth Modifier (including but not limited to): GQ, GT, POS 02, POS 10'