

**Quality ID #176: Rheumatoid Arthritis (RA): Tuberculosis Screening – National Quality Strategy**  
**Domain: Effective Clinical Care**

**2018 OPTIONS FOR INDIVIDUAL MEASURES:**  
**REGISTRY ONLY**

**MEASURE TYPE:**  
Process

**DESCRIPTION:**

Percentage of patients aged 18 years and older with a diagnosis of rheumatoid arthritis (RA) who have documentation of a tuberculosis (TB) screening performed and results interpreted within 6 months prior to receiving a first course of therapy using a biologic disease-modifying anti-rheumatic drug (DMARD)

**INSTRUCTIONS:**

This measure is to be submitted a minimum of **once per performance period** for patients with a diagnosis of RA who are being considered or prescribed a first course of biologic disease-modifying anti-rheumatic drug therapy seen during the performance period. This measure may be submitted by eligible clinicians who perform the quality actions described in the measure based on the services provided and the measure-specific denominator coding.

**Measure Submission:**

The listed denominator criteria is used to identify the intended patient population. The numerator options included in this specification are used to submit the quality actions allowed by the measure. The quality-data codes listed do not need to be submitted for registry submissions; however, these codes may be submitted for those registries that utilize claims data.

**DENOMINATOR:**

All patients aged 18 years and older with a diagnosis of RA who are receiving a first course of therapy using a biologic DMARD

**Denominator Instructions:** Patients are considered to be receiving a first course of therapy using a biologic DMARD only if they have never previously been prescribed or dispensed a biologic DMARD.

**Denominator Criteria (Eligible Cases):**

Patients aged  $\geq$  18 years on date of encounter

**AND**

**Diagnosis for rheumatoid arthritis (RA) (ICD-10-CM):** M05.00, M05.011, M05.012, M05.019, M05.021, M05.022, M05.029, M05.031, M05.032, M05.039, M05.041, M05.042, M05.049, M05.051, M05.052, M05.059, M05.061, M05.062, M05.069, M05.071, M05.072, M05.079, M05.09, M05.111, M05.112, M05.119, M05.121, M05.122, M05.129, M05.131, M05.132, M05.139, M05.141, M05.142, M05.149, M05.151, M05.152, M05.159, M05.161, M05.162, M05.169, M05.171, M05.172, M05.179, M05.19, M05.20, M05.211, M05.212, M05.219, M05.221, M05.222, M05.229, M05.231, M05.232, M05.239, M05.241, M05.242, M05.249, M05.251, M05.252, M05.259, M05.261, M05.262, M05.269, M05.271, M05.272, M05.279, M05.29, M05.30, M05.311, M05.312, M05.319, M05.321, M05.322, M05.329, M05.331, M05.332, M05.339, M05.341, M05.342, M05.349, M05.351, M05.352, M05.359, M05.361, M05.362, M05.369, M05.371, M05.372, M05.379, M05.39, M05.40, M05.411, M05.412, M05.419, M05.421, M05.422, M05.429, M05.431, M05.432, M05.439, M05.441, M05.442, M05.449, M05.451, M05.452, M05.459, M05.461, M05.462, M05.469, M05.471, M05.472, M05.479, M05.49, M05.50, M05.511, M05.512, M05.519, M05.521, M05.522, M05.529, M05.531, M05.532, M05.539, M05.541, M05.542, M05.549, M05.551, M05.552, M05.559, M05.561, M05.562, M05.569, M05.571, M05.572, M05.579, M05.59, M05.60, M05.611, M05.612, M05.619, M05.621, M05.622, M05.629, M05.631, M05.632, M05.639, M05.641, M05.642, M05.649, M05.651, M05.652, M05.659, M05.661, M05.662, M05.669, M05.671, M05.672, M05.679, M05.69, M05.70,

M05.711, M05.712, M05.719, M05.721, M05.722, M05.729, M05.731, M05.732, M05.739, M05.741, M05.742, M05.749, M05.751, M05.752, M05.759, M05.761, M05.762, M05.769, M05.771, M05.772, M05.779, M05.79, M05.80, M05.811, M05.812, M05.819, M05.821, M05.822, M05.829, M05.831, M05.832, M05.839, M05.841, M05.842, M05.849, M05.851, M05.852, M05.859, M05.861, M05.862, M05.869, M05.871, M05.872, M05.879, M05.89, M05.9, M06.00, M06.011, M06.012, M06.019, M06.021, M06.022, M06.029, M06.031, M06.032, M06.039, M06.041, M06.042, M06.049, M06.051, M06.052, M06.059, M06.061, M06.062, M06.069, M06.071, M06.072, M06.079, M06.08, M06.09, M06.1, M06.30, M06.311, M06.312, M06.319, M06.321, M06.322, M06.329, M06.331, M06.332, M06.339, M06.341, M06.342, M06.349, M06.351, M06.352, M06.359, M06.361, M06.362, M06.369, M06.371, M06.372, M06.379, M06.38, M06.39, M06.80, M06.811, M06.812, M06.819, M06.821, M06.822, M06.829, M06.831, M06.832, M06.839, M06.841, M06.842, M06.849, M06.851, M06.852, M06.859, M06.861, M06.862, M06.869, M06.871, M06.872, M06.879, M06.88, M06.89, M06.9

**AND**

**Patient encounter during the performance period (CPT or HCPCS):** 99201, 99202, 99203, 99204, 99205, 99212, 99213, 99214, 99215, 99341, 99342, 99343, 99344, 99345, 99347, 99348, 99349, 99350, G0402

**WITHOUT**

**Telehealth Modifier:** GQ, GT, 95, POS 02

**AND**

**Patient receiving first-time biologic disease modifying anti-rheumatic drug therapy for rheumatoid arthritis:** 4195F

**NUMERATOR:**

Patients for whom a TB screening was performed and results interpreted within 6 months prior to receiving a first course of therapy using a biologic DMARD

**Definition:**

**Biologic DMARD Therapy** – Includes Adalimumab, Etanercept, Infliximab, Abatacept, Anakinra, Rituximab, Certolizumab pegol (Cimzia), Tocilizumab, Golimumab (Simponi), Humira, Enbrel, Orencia, Remicade, Rituxan, Actemra, Kineret, Xeljanz, Tofacitinib, Belimumab, Benlysta

**Numerator Options:**

***Performance Met:***

TB screening performed and results interpreted within six months prior to initiation of first-time biologic disease modifying anti-rheumatic drug therapy for RA (3455F)

**OR**

***Denominator Exception:***

Documentation of medical reason for not screening for TB or interpreting results (i.e., patient positive for TB and documentation of past treatment; patient who has recently completed a course of anti-TB therapy) (3455F with 1P)

**OR**

***Performance Not Met:***

TB screening not performed or results not interpreted, reason not otherwise specified (3455F with 8P)

**RATIONALE:**

Before initiating biologic DMARDs for a patient with RA, it is essential to screen the patient for tuberculosis, as research has documented a higher incidence of TB after anti-TNF $\alpha$  therapy. All patients being considered for biologic DMARD should receive a tuberculin skin test, even if the patient has previously received the BCG vaccination. Test results, in addition to patient risk for TB and other tests, should be used to assess the patient's risk for latent TB infection. This is a patient safety measure.

**CLINICAL RECOMMENDATION STATEMENTS:**

The American College of Rheumatology recommends screening to identify latent TB infection (LTBI) in all RA patients being considered for therapy with biologic agents, regardless of the presence of risk factors for LTBI. (Level of Evidence: C) (ACR, 2012)

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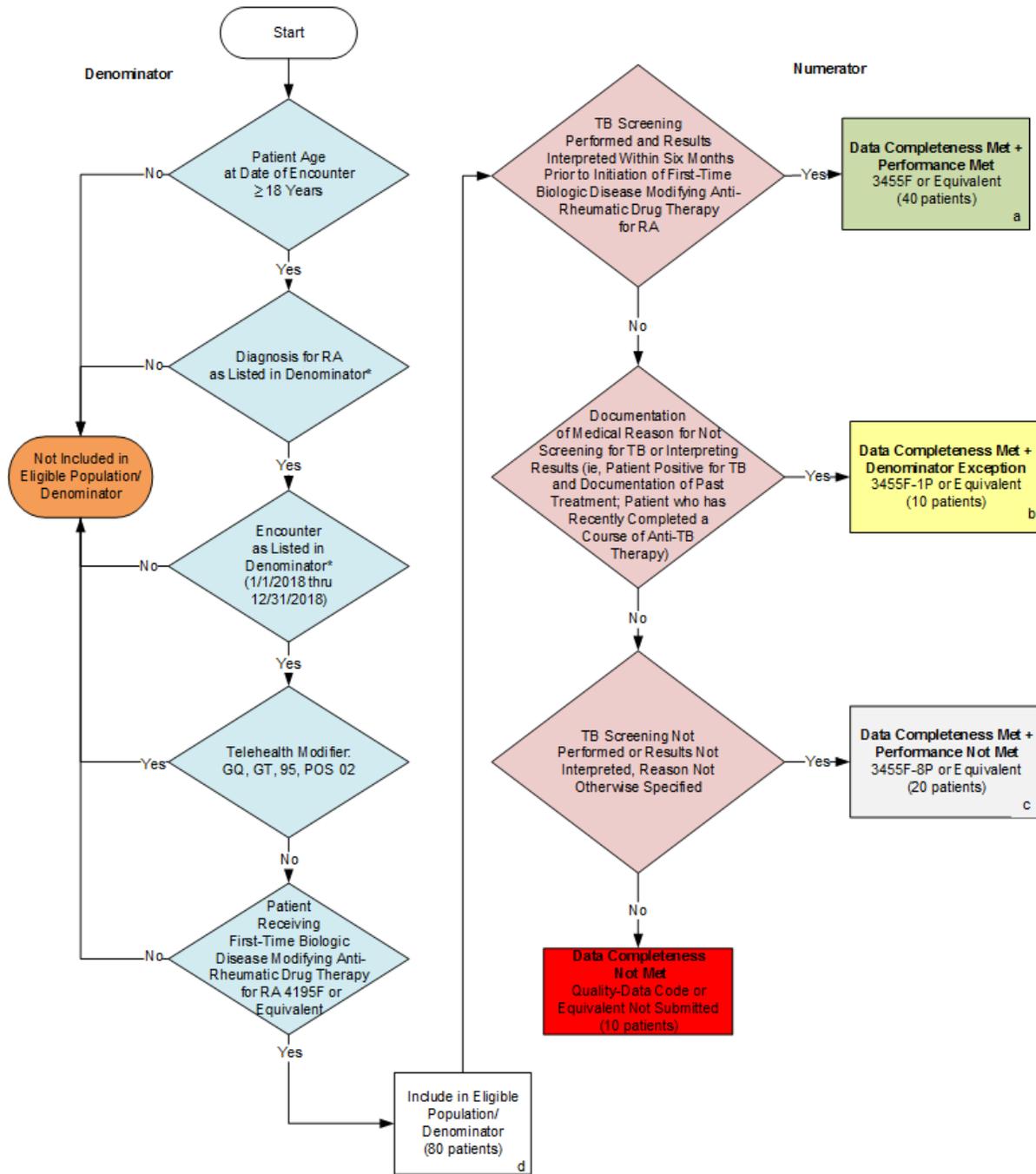
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## 2018 Registry Flow for Quality ID #176: Rheumatoid Arthritis (RA): Tuberculosis Screening



\*See the posted Measure Specification for specific coding and instructions to submit this measure.

NOTE: Submission Frequency: Patient-process

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**2018 Registry Flow for Quality ID #176:  
Rheumatoid Arthritis (RA): Tuberculosis Screening**

**SAMPLE CALCULATIONS:**

**Data Completeness=**

$$\frac{\text{Performance Met (a=40 patients)} + \text{Denominator Exception (b=10 patients)} + \text{Performance Not Met (c=20 patients)}}{\text{Eligible Population / Denominator (d=80 patients)}} = \frac{70 \text{ patients}}{80 \text{ patients}} = 87.50\%$$

**Performance Rate=**

$$\frac{\text{Performance Met (a=40 patients)}}{\text{Data Completeness Numerator (70 patients) - Denominator Exception (b= 10 patients)}} = \frac{40 \text{ patients}}{60 \text{ patients}} = 66.67\%$$

NOTE: Submission Frequency: Patient-process

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The measure diagrams were developed by CMS as a supplemental resource to be used  
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**2018 Registry Flow for Quality ID  
#176: Rheumatoid Arthritis (RA): Tuberculosis Screening**

Please refer to the specific section of the specification to identify the denominator and numerator information for use in submitting this Individual Specification. This flow is for registry data submission.

1. Start with Denominator
2. Check Patient Age:
  - a. If the Age is greater than or equal to 18 years of age at Date of Service and equals No during the measurement period, do not include in Eligible Patient Population. Stop Processing.
  - b. If the Age is greater than or equal to 18 years of age at Date of Service and equals Yes during the measurement period, proceed to check Patient Diagnosis.
3. Check Patient Diagnosis:
  - a. If Diagnosis of RA as Listed in the Denominator equals No, do not include in Eligible Patient Population. Stop Processing.
  - b. If Diagnosis of RA as Listed in the Denominator equals Yes, proceed to check Encounter Performed.
4. Check Encounter Performed:
  - a. If Encounter as Listed in the Denominator equals No, do not include in Eligible Patient Population. Stop Processing.
  - b. If Encounter as Listed in the Denominator equals Yes, proceed to check Telehealth Modifier.
5. Check Telehealth Modifier:
  - a. If Telehealth Modifier as Listed in the Denominator equals Yes, do not include in Eligible Patient Population. Stop Processing.
  - b. If Telehealth Modifier as Listed in the Denominator equals No, Proceed to check Patient Receiving First-Time Biologic Disease Modifying Anti-Rheumatic Drug Therapy for RA.
6. Check Patient Receiving First-Time Biologic Disease Modifying Anti-Rheumatic Drug Therapy for RA:
  - a. If Patient Receiving First-Time Biologic Disease Modifying Anti-Rheumatic Drug Therapy for RA as Listed in the Denominator equals No, do not include in Eligible Patient Population. Stop Processing.
  - b. If Patient Receiving First-Time Biologic Disease Modifying Anti-Rheumatic Drug Therapy for RA as Listed in the Denominator equals Yes, include in the Eligible Population.
7. Denominator Population:
  - a. Denominator Population is all Eligible Patients in the denominator. Denominator is represented as Denominator in the Sample Calculation listed at the end of this document. Letter d equals 80 episodes in the Sample Calculation.
8. Start Numerator

9. Check TB Screening Performed and Results Interpreted Within Six Months Prior to Initiation of First-Time Biologic Disease Modifying Anti-Rheumatic Drug Therapy for RA:
  - a. If TB Screening Performed and Results Interpreted Within Six Months Prior to Initiation of First-Time Biologic Disease Modifying Anti-Rheumatic Drug Therapy for RA equals Yes, include in Data Completeness Met and Performance Met.
  - b. Data Completeness Met and Performance Met letter is represented in the Data Completeness and Performance Rate in the Sample Calculation listed at the end of this document. Letter a equals 40 episodes in the Sample Calculation.
  - c. If TB Screening Performed and Results Interpreted Within Six Months Prior to Initiation of First-Time Biologic Disease Modifying Anti-Rheumatic Drug Therapy for RA equals No, proceed to Documentation of Medical Reason for Not Screening for TB or Interpreting Results (i.e., Patient Positive for TB and Documentation of Past Treatment; Patient who has Recently Completed a Course of Anti-TB Therapy).
10. Check Documentation of Medical Reason for Not Screening for TB or Interpreting Results (i.e., Patient Positive for TB and Documentation of Past Treatment; Patient who has Recently Completed a Course of Anti-TB Therapy):
  - a. If Documentation of Medical Reason for Not Screening for TB or Interpreting Results (i.e., Patient Positive for TB and Documentation of Past Treatment; Patient who has Recently Completed a Course of Anti-TB Therapy) equals Yes, include in Data Completeness Met and Performance Exception.
  - b. Data Completeness Met and Denominator Exception letter is represented in the Data Completeness and Performance Rate in the Sample Calculation listed at the end of this document. Letter b equals 10 episode in the Sample Calculation.
  - c. If Documentation of Medical Reason for Not Screening for TB or Interpreting Results (i.e., Patient Positive for TB and Documentation of Past Treatment; Patient who has Recently Completed a Course of Anti-TB Therapy) equals No, proceed to TB Screening Not Performed or Results Not Interpreted, Reason Not Otherwise Specified.
11. Check TB Screening Not Performed or Results Not Interpreted, Reason Not Otherwise Specified:
  - a. If TB Screening Not Performed or Results Not Interpreted, Reason Not Otherwise Specified equals Yes, include in Data Completeness Met and Performance Not Met.
  - b. Data Completeness Met and Performance Not Met letter is represented in the Data Completeness and Performance Rate in the Sample Calculation listed at the end of this document. Letter c equals 20 episodes in the Sample Calculation.
  - c. If TB Screening Not Performed or Results Not Interpreted, Reason Not Otherwise Specified equals No, proceed to Data Completeness Not Met.
12. Check Data Completeness Not Met:
  - a. If Data Completeness Not Met equals No, Quality Data Code or equivalent not submitted. 10 episodes have been subtracted from the Data Completeness Numerator in the Sample Calculation.

**SAMPLE CALCULATIONS:**

**Data Completeness=**

$$\frac{\text{Performance Met (a=40 patients)} + \text{Denominator Exception (b=10 patients)} + \text{Performance Not Met (c=20 patients)}}{\text{Eligible Population / Denominator (d=80 patients)}} = \frac{70 \text{ patients}}{80 \text{ patients}} = 87.50\%$$

**Performance Rate=**

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