

Quality ID #340 (NQF 2079): HIV Medical Visit Frequency - National Quality Strategy Domain:  
Efficiency And Cost Reduction

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

**MEASURE TYPE:**

Process

**DESCRIPTION:**

Percentage of patients, regardless of age with a diagnosis of HIV who had at least one medical visit in each 6 month period of the 24 month measurement period, with a minimum of 60 days between medical visits

**INSTRUCTIONS:**

This measure is to be submitted a minimum of **once per performance period** for patients with HIV seen during the performance period. This measure is intended to reflect the quality of services provided for the primary management of patients with HIV. 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:**

Patients, regardless of age, with a diagnosis of HIV with at least one medical visit in the performance period

***DENOMINATOR NOTE:** In order to determine denominator eligibility, patients should be diagnosed with HIV during the first 3 months of the 24-month measurement period or have a diagnosis prior to the performance period. Performance of the measure is met when there is at least one medical visit in each 6 month interval with 60 days between denominator eligible encounters for patients with HIV within the 24-month measurement.*

**Denominator Criteria (Eligible Cases):**

Patients, regardless of age

**AND**

Diagnosis of HIV/AIDS (ICD-10-CM): B20, Z21

**AND**

Patient encounter during the performance period (CPT or HCPCS): 99201, 99202, 99203, 99204, 99205, 99212, 99213, 99214, 99215, G0402

**AND NOT**

**DENOMINATOR EXCLUSION:**

Patient died at any time during the 24-month measurement period: G9751

**NUMERATOR:**

Number of patients who had at least one medical visit in each 6 month period of the 24 month measurement period, with a minimum of 60 days between medical visits

**Numerator Options:**

*Performance Met:*

Patient had at least one medical visit in each 6 month period of the 24 month measurement period, with a minimum of 60 days between medical visits (G9247)

**OR**

*Performance Not Met:*

Patient did not have at least one medical visit in each 6 month period of the 24 month measurement period, with a minimum of 60 days between medical visits (G9246)

**RATIONALE:**

Early linkage to, and long-term retention in HIV care leads to better health outcomes. Linkage to HIV medical care shortly after HIV diagnosis and continuous care thereafter provide opportunities for risk reduction counseling, initiation of treatment, and other strategies that improve individual health and prevent onward transmission of infection (Giordano, 2007; Cohen, 2011; Giordano, 2003; Lucas, 1999; Metscher, 2008; Montaner, 2010). Delayed linkage and poor retention in care are associated with delayed receipt of antiretroviral treatment, higher rate of virologic failure, and increased morbidity and mortality (Metscher, 2008; Montaner, 2010; Ulett, 2009).

Poor retention in care during the first year of outpatient medical care is associated with delayed or failed receipt of antiretroviral therapy, delayed time to virologic suppression and greater cumulative HIV burden, increased sexual risk transmission behaviors, increased risk of long-term adverse clinical events, and low adherence to antiretroviral therapy (Giordano, 2007; Metscher, 2008; Ulett, 2009; Mugavero, 2009). Early retention in HIV care has been found to be associated with time to viral load suppression and 2-year cumulative viral load burden among patients newly initiating HIV medical care (Mugavero, 2012). In this study, each “no show” clinic visit conveyed a 17% increased risk of delayed viral load suppression. A dose- response relationship has been shown between constancy of visits during the first year (i.e. having an HIV primary care visit in each 3-month quarter) and survival (Mugavero, 2009). Another study examining care over a two year period has found that mean increase from baseline CD4 counts was significantly greater among those with optimal retention (visits in all 4 six-month intervals) than among those with sub-optimal retention, and that mortality was higher among those with suboptimal retention (Tripathi, 2011).

In an analysis of 9 years (January 1, 2001 through December 31, 2009) of outpatient HIV care utilization from 17, 425 HIV infected adults enrolled in the HIV Research Network (HIVRN), a consortium of HIV care clinics, Yehia et al. found that 7179 (41.6%) individuals never experienced an interval between outpatient visits longer than 6 months (no gap), 5426 (31.1%) had one or more 7–12-month gaps in care, and 4820 (27.7%) had one or more gaps of longer than 12 months.

**CLINICAL RECOMMENDATION STATEMENTS:**

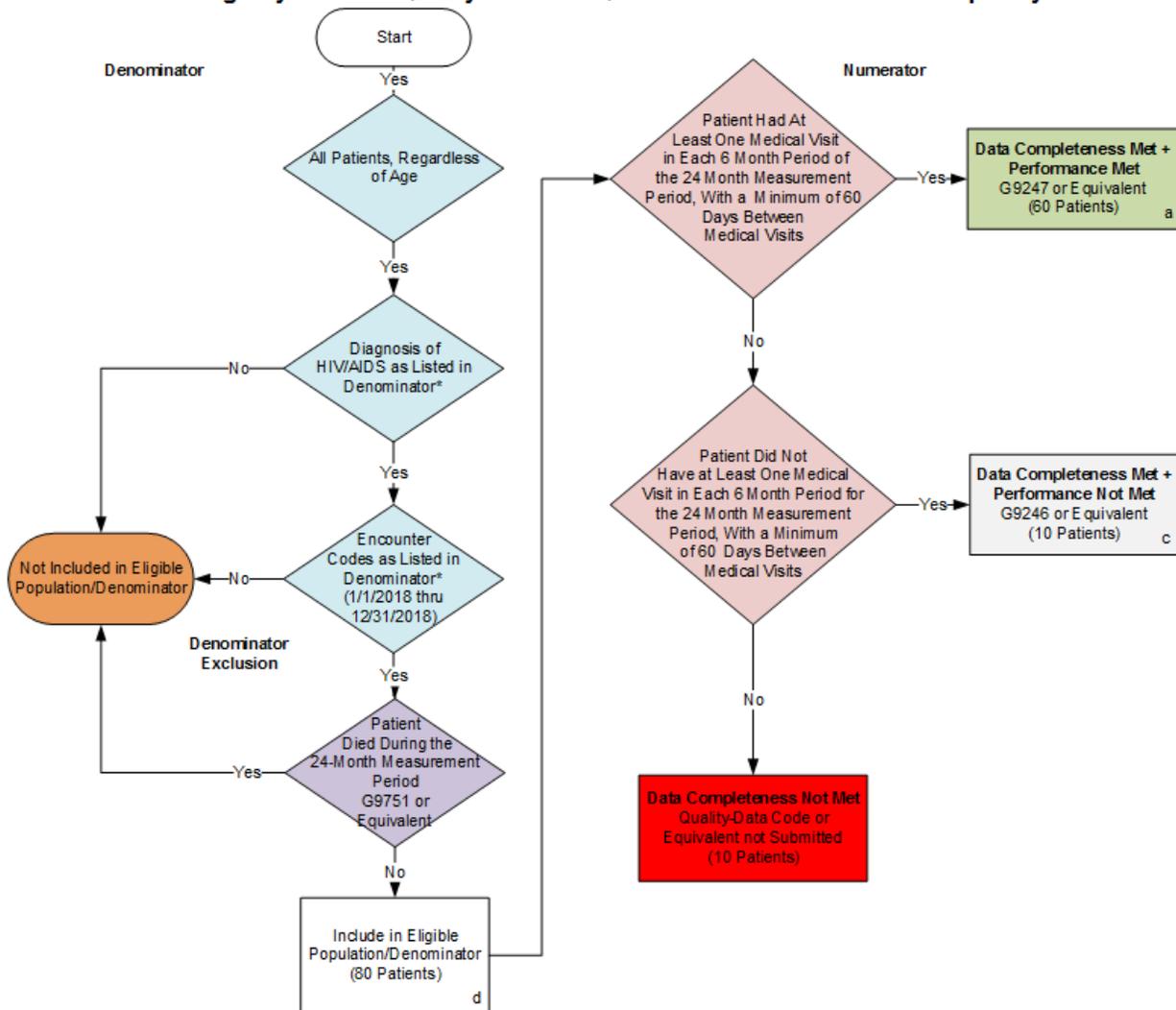
Department of Health and Human Service (HHS) guidelines make recommendations regarding the types and frequency of screenings, laboratory testing, and counseling that should be provided to people living with HIV. Screening, testing, and counseling are delivered through comprehensive HIV medical care visits. The frequency of the medical visit are related to the individual patient’s health status and attainment of health outcomes. Based on the frequency of screenings, testing, and counseling, HIV medical visits should occur every six months. (Strength of Evidence = AI, AIII, BIII) (Guidelines for the Use of Antiretroviral Agents in HIV-1-Infected Adults and Adolescents PDF Sections E-1 and C-3. Accessed May 18, 2015)

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## 2018 Registry Flow for Quality ID #340 NQF #2079: HIV Medical Visit Frequency



### SAMPLE CALCULATIONS:

**Data Completeness=**  
 Performance Met (a=60 patients) + Performance Not Met (c=10 patients) = 70 patients = **87.50%**  
 Eligible Population / Denominator (d=80 patients) = 80 patients

**Performance Rate=**  
 Performance Met (a=60 patients) = 60 patients = **85.71%**  
 Data Completeness Numerator (70 patients) = 70 patients

\* 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  
#340 NQF #2079: HIV Medical Visit Frequency**

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. All Patients Regardless of Age, proceed to check Patient Diagnosis.
3. Check Patient Diagnosis:
  - a. If Diagnosis of HIV/AIDS as Listed in Denominator equals No, do not include in Eligible Patient Population. Stop Processing.
  - b. If Diagnosis of HIV/AIDS as Listed in 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 Patient Died During the 24 Month Measurement Period.
5. Check Patient Died During the 24 Month Measurement Period:
  - a. If Patient Died During the 24 Month Measurement Period equals Yes, do not include in Eligible Patient Population. Stop Processing.
  - b. If Patient Died During the 24 Month Measurement Period equals No, include in the Eligible population.
6. 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 patients in the Sample Calculation.
7. Start Numerator
8. Check Patient Had at Least One Medical Visit in Each 6 Month Period of the 24 Month Measurement Period, with a Minimum of 60 days Between Medical Visits:
  - a. If Patient Had at Least One Medical Visit in Each 6 Month Period of the 24 Month Measurement Period, with a Minimum of 60 days Between Medical Visits 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 60 patients in Sample Calculation.

- c. If Patient Had at Least One Medical Visit in Each 6 Month Period of the 24 Month Measurement Period, with a Minimum of 60 days Between Medical Visits equals No, proceed to Patient Did Not Have at Least One Medical Visit in Each 6 Month Period of the 24 Month Measurement Period, with a Minimum of 60 Days Between Medical Visits.
9. Check Patient Did Not Have at Least One Medical Visit in Each 6 Month Period of the 24 Month Measurement Period, with a Minimum of 60 Days Between Medical Visits:
- a. If Patient Did Not Have at Least One Medical Visit in Each 6 Month Period of the 24 Month Measurement Period, with a Minimum of 60 Days Between Medical Visits 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 in the Sample Calculation listed at the end of this document. Letter c equals 10 patients in the Sample Calculation.
  - c. If Patient Did Not Have at Least One Medical Visit in Each 6 Month Period of the 24 Month Measurement Period, with a Minimum of 60 Days Between Medical Visits equals No, proceed to Data Completeness Not Met.
10. Check Data Completeness Not Met
- a. If Data Completeness Not Met, the Quality Data Code or equivalent was not submitted. 10 patients have been subtracted from the Data Completeness Numerator in the Sample Calculation.

<b>SAMPLE CALCULATIONS:</b>			
<b>Data Completeness=</b>			
Performance Met (a=60 patients) + Performance Not Met (c=10 patients)	=	<u>70 patients</u>	= 87.50%
Eligible Population / Denominator (d=80 patients)	=	80 patients	
<b>Performance Rate=</b>			
Performance Met (a=60 patients)	=	<u>60 patients</u>	= 85.71%
Data Completeness Numerator (70 patients)	=	70 patients	