

# 2019 HEDIS® Measures

Central California Alliance for Health

## Avoidance of Antibiotic Treatment in Adults with Acute Bronchitis (AAB) Reporting Tip Sheet

This document is intended to provide instructions for the Medi-Cal Healthcare Effectiveness Data and Information Set (HEDIS) measure, Avoidance of Antibiotic Treatment in Adults with Acute Bronchitis.

### DESCRIPTION:

The percentage of members age 18-64 years with a diagnosis of acute bronchitis who were not given an antibiotic prescription.

### WHY THIS MEASURE IS IMPORTANT:

- » **≥90% of acute bronchitis cases** are caused by a virus.
- » **Antibiotics Do Not kill viruses** and have proven ineffective in treating acute bronchitis in healthy adults; antibiotics are frequently prescribed inappropriately for these patients.
- » **Antibiotic treatment** is associated with allergic reactions, C. difficile infections,

and other potentially serious side effects.

- » **Antimicrobial drug resistance** can also result from inappropriate use of these medications and is a **major public health problem**.

### TARGET POPULATION:

- » Members age  $\geq 18$  years as of January 1 of the year prior to the measurement year to age 64 years as of December 31 of the measurement year who were diagnosed with acute bronchitis and do not have a claim for an antibiotic prescription within 3 days of the diagnosis.
- » Members must have no more than one gap in enrollment of up to 45 days during the measurement year.

### CODING REQUIREMENTS:

Members are eligible if they have had an ED, observation, or outpatient visit with an acute bronchitis diagnosis and no pharmacy claim indicating an antibiotic prescription.

### Acceptable codes include:

**Outpatient:** 99201-99205; 99211-99215; 99241-99245; 99341-99385; 99381-99397

**ED:** 99281-99285

**Observation:** 99217-99220

**Appropriate ICD-10 Diagnosis codes:**  
Acute Bronchitis  
J20.3-J20.9

### DATA COLLECTION:

Data for this measure will be collected via claims.

### EXCLUSIONS:

Members will be excluded from the measure if the diagnosis of **acute bronchitis** resulted in an **inpatient stay**; if the patient had a claim/encounter with a **diagnosis of a specified comorbid condition**†; if they had a **relevant competing diagnosis**; or if they were receiving **hospice services** during the measurement year.



### BEST PRACTICES

- ☑ **Set appropriate expectations** for duration of symptoms and provide specific directions to the members to achieve symptomatic relief.
- ☑ **Educate Members** about the risks of inappropriate antibiotic use.
- ☑ **Caution** patients regarding symptoms indicating more severe disease.
- ☑ **Use the Provider Portal** reports as an office tracking tool, and reach out to non-compliant members.
- ☑ **Use the most accurate codes** to reflect the correct diagnosis.

\*More information on patient communication and provider education can be obtained from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) at <https://www.cdc.gov/antibiotic-use/community/for-hcp/outpatient-hcp/index.html>.

† Relevant conditions include: HIV, cancer, emphysema, COPD, cystic fibrosis, immune disorders, and others.