Quality ID #1 (NQF 0059): Diabetes: Hemoglobin A1c (HbA1c) Poor Control (>9%)
– National Quality Strategy Domain: Effective Clinical Care
– Meaningful Measure Area: Management of Chronic Conditions

**2021 COLLECTION TYPE:**
MEDICARE PART B CLAIMS

**MEASURE TYPE:**
Intermediate Outcome – High Priority

**DESCRIPTION:**
Percentage of patients 18-75 years of age with diabetes who had hemoglobin A1c > 9.0% during the measurement period

**INSTRUCTIONS:**
This measure is to be submitted a minimum of **once per performance period** for patients with diabetes seen during the performance period. The most recent quality-data code submitted will be used for performance calculation. This measure may be submitted by Merit-based Incentive Payment System (MIPS) eligible clinicians who perform the quality actions described in the measure based on the services provided and the measure-specific denominator coding.

**NOTE:** Patient encounters for this measure conducted via telehealth (e.g., encounters coded with GQ, GT, 95, or POS 02 modifiers) are allowable.

**Measure Submission Type:**
Measure data may be submitted by individual MIPS eligible clinicians using Medicare Part B claims. The listed denominator criteria are used to identify the intended patient population. The numerator quality-data codes included in this specification are used to submit the quality actions allowed by the measure on the claim form(s). All measure-specific coding should be submitted on the claim(s) representing the denominator eligible encounter and selected numerator option.

**DENOMINATOR:**
Patients 18 - 75 years of age with diabetes with a visit during the measurement period

**DENOMINATOR NOTE:** *Signifies that this CPT Category I code is a non-covered service under the Physician Fee Schedule (PFS). These non-covered services will not be counted in the denominator population for Medicare Part B claims measures*

**Denominator Criteria (Eligible Cases):**
Patients 18 through 75 years of age on date of encounter

**AND**
**Diagnosis for diabetes (ICD-10-CM):**

AND

Patient encounter during performance period (CPT or HCPCS): 99202, 99203, 99204, 99205, 99212, 99213, 99214, 99215, 99341, 99342, 99343, 99344, 99345, 99347, 99348, 99349, 99350, 99385*, 99386*, 99387*, 99395*, 99396*, G0438, G0439

NUMERATOR:
Patients whose most recent HbA1c level (performed during the measurement period) is > 9.0%

Numerator Instruction:
INVERSE MEASURE - A lower calculated performance rate for this measure indicates better clinical care or control. The “Performance Not Met” numerator option for this measure is the representation of the better clinical quality or control. Submitting that numerator option will produce a performance rate that trends closer to 0%, as quality increases. For inverse measures, a rate of 100% means all of the denominator eligible patients did not receive the appropriate care or were not in proper control.

Patient is numerator compliant if most recent HbA1c level >9%, the most recent HbA1c result is missing, or if there are no HbA1c tests performed and results documented during the measurement period. Ranges and thresholds do not meet criteria for this indicator. A distinct numeric result is required for numerator compliance. Do not include HbA1c levels reported by the patient.

Only patients with a diagnosis of Type 1 or Type 2 diabetes should be included in the denominator of this measure; patients with a diagnosis of secondary diabetes due to another condition should not be included.

Numerator Quality-Data Coding Options:
Patient receiving Hospice Services, Patient Not Eligible:
Denominator Exclusion: G9687: Hospice services provided to patient any time during the measurement period
OR
G2081 Patients age 66 and older in Institutional Special Needs Plans (SNP) or residing in long-term care with a POS code 32, 33, 34, 54 or 56 for more than 90 consecutive days during the measurement period
OR
G2090: Patients 66 years of age and older with at least one
claim/encounter for frailty during the measurement period
AND a dispensed medication for dementia during the
measurement period or the year prior to the measurement
period

OR

G2091:

Patients 66 years of age and older with at least one
claim/encounter for frailty during the measurement
period AND either one acute inpatient encounter with a
diagnosis of advanced illness or two outpatient,
observation, ED or non-acute inpatient encounters on
different dates of service with an advanced illness
diagnosis during the measurement period or the year
prior to the measurement period

Table: Dementia Exclusion Medications

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Prescription</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cholinesterase inhibitors</td>
<td>Donepezil, Galantamine, Rivastigimine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous central nervous system agents</td>
<td>Memantine</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **Codes to identify Frailty:** 99504, 99509, E0100, E0105, E0130, E0135, E0140, E0141, E0143, E0144, E0147, E0148, E0149, E0163, E0165, E0167, E0168, E0170, E0171, E0250, E0251, E0255, E0256, E0260, E0261, E0265, E0266, E0270, E0290, E0291, E0292, E0293, E0294, E0295, E0296, E0297, E0301, E0302, E0303, E0304, E0424, E0425, E0430, E0431, E0433, E0434, E0435, E0439, E0440, E0441, E0442, E0443, E0444, E0462, E0465, E0466, E0470, E0471, E0472, E0561, E0562, E1130, E1140, E1150, E1160, E1161, E1240, E1250, E1260, E1261, E1265, E1280, E1285, E1290, E1295, E1296, E1297, E1298, G0162, G0299, G0300, G0493, G0494, S0271, S0311, S9123, S9124, T1000, T1001, T1002, T1003, T1004, T1005, T1019, T1020, T1021, T1022, T1030, T1031, L89.119, L89.139, L89.149, L89.159, L89.209, L89.309, L89.899, L89.90, M62.50, M62.81, M62.84, R26.0, R26.1, R26.2, R26.89, R26.9, R41.81, R53.1, R53.81, R53.83, R54, R62.7, R63.4, R63.6, R64, W01.0XXA, W01.0XXD, W01.0XXS, W01.1XXA, W01.1XXD, W01.1XXS, A81.00, A81.01, A81.09, C25.0, C25.1, C25.2, C25.3, C25.4, C25.7, C25.8, C25.9, C71.0, C71.1, C71.2, C71.3, C71.4, C71.5, C71.6, C71.7, C71.8, C71.9, C77.0, C77.1, C77.2, C77.3, C77.4, C77.5, C77.8, C77.9, C78.00, C78.01, C78.02, C78.1, C78.2, C78.30, C78.39, C78.4, C78.5, C78.6, C78.7, C78.80, C78.89, C78.90, C79.01, C79.09, C79.90, C79.91, C79.92, C79.93, C79.94, C79.95, C79.96, C79.97, C79.98, C79.99, C91.00, C91.02, C92.00, C92.02, C93.00, C93.02, C93.92, C93.93, C93.94, C94.30, C94.32, F01.50, F01.51, F02.80, F02.81, F03.90, F03.91, F04, F10.27, F10.96, F10.97, G10, G12.21, G20, G30.0, G30.1, G30.8, G30.9, G31.01, G31.09, G31.83, I09.81, I11.0, I12.0, I13.0, I13.11, I13.2, I50.1, I50.20, I50.21, I50.22, I50.23, I50.30, I50.31, I50.32, I50.33, I50.40,
Most Recent Hemoglobin A1c Level > 9.0%

Performance Met: CPT II 3046F: Most recent hemoglobin A1c level > 9.0%

OR

Hemoglobin A1c not Performed, Reason not Otherwise Specified

Append a submission modifier (8P) to CPT Category II code 3046F to submit circumstances when the action described in the numerator is not performed and the reason is not otherwise specified.

Performance Met: 3046F with 8P: Hemoglobin A1c level was not performed during the measurement period (12 months)

Most Recent Hemoglobin A1c Level ≤ 9.0%

Performance Not Met: CPT II 3044F: Most recent hemoglobin A1c (HbA1c) level < 7.0%

OR

Performance Not Met: CPT II 3051F Most recent hemoglobin A1c (HbA1c) level greater than or equal to 7.0% and less than 8.0%

OR

Performance Not Met: CPT II 3052F Most recent hemoglobin A1c (HbA1c) level greater than or equal to 8.0% and less than or equal to 9.0%

RATIONALE:

As the seventh leading cause of death in the U.S., diabetes kills approximately 79,500 people a year and affects more than 30 million Americans (9.4 percent of the U.S. population) (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention [CDC], 2017a, 2017b). Diabetes is a long-lasting disease marked by high blood glucose levels, resulting from the body’s inability to produce or use insulin properly (CDC, 2019). People with diabetes are at increased risk of serious health complications including vision loss, heart disease, stroke, kidney failure, amputation of toes, feet or legs, and premature death (CDC, 2016).

In 2017, diabetes cost the U.S. an estimated $327 billion: $237 billion in direct medical costs and $90 billion in reduced productivity. This is a 34 percent increase from the estimated $245 billion spent on diabetes in 2012 (American Diabetes Association, 2018).
Controlling A1c blood levels help reduce the risk of microvascular complications (eye, kidney and nerve diseases) (CDC, 2014).

**CLINICAL RECOMMENDATION STATEMENTS:**
American Diabetes Association (2019):

A reasonable A1C goal for many nonpregnant adults is <7%. (Level of evidence: A)

Providers might reasonably suggest more stringent A1C goals (such as <6.5%) for selected individual patients if this can be achieved without significant hypoglycemia or other adverse effects of treatment. Appropriate patients might include those with short duration of diabetes, type 2 diabetes treated with lifestyle or metformin only, long life expectancy, or no significant cardiovascular disease (CVD). (Level of evidence: C)

Less stringent A1C goals (such as <8%) may be appropriate for patients with a history of severe hypoglycemia, limited life expectancy, advanced microvascular or macrovascular complications, extensive comorbid conditions, or long-standing diabetes in whom the general goal is difficult to attain despite diabetes self-management education, appropriate glucose monitoring, and effective doses of multiple glucose-lowering agents including insulin. (Level of evidence: B)

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2021 Medicare Part B Claims Flow for Quality ID #1 (NQF 0059): Diabetes: Hemoglobin A1c (HbA1c) Poor Control (>9%)

Disclaimer: Refer to the measure specification for specific coding and instructions to submit this measure.
**Data Completeness Met + Performance Not Met**

**Data Completeness Met + Performance Met**

**Data Completeness Met + Performance Not Met**

**Data Completeness Met + Performance Met**

**Data Completeness Met + Performance Not Met**

**Sample Calculations**

**Data Completeness**

\[
\text{Denominator Exclusion} (x_1 + x_2 + x_3 + x_4 = 0 \text{ patients}) + \text{Performance Met} (a_1 + a_2 = 50 \text{ patients}) + \text{Performance Not Met} (c_1 + c_2 + c_3 = 20 \text{ patients}) = 70 \text{ patients} = 87.50\% \\
\text{Eligible Population} / \text{Denominator} (d = 80 \text{ patients}) = 80 \text{ patients}
\]

**Performance Rate**

\[
\text{Performance Met} (a_1 + a_2 = 50 \text{ patients}) = 50 \text{ patients} = 71.43\%
\]

\[
\text{Data Completeness Numerator} (70 \text{ patients}) / \text{Denominator Exclusion} (x = 0 \text{ patients}) = 70 \text{ patients}
\]

*See the posted measure specification for specific coding and instructions to submit this measure.  
**A lower calculated performance rate for this measure indicates better clinical care or control.  
NOTE: Submission Frequency: Patient-Intermediate
2021 Medicare Part B Claims Flow Narrative for Quality ID #1 (NQF 0059):
Diabetes: Hemoglobin A1c (HbA1c) Poor Control (>9%)

Disclaimer: Refer to the measure specification for specific coding and instructions to submit this measure.

1. Start with Denominator

2. Check Patients 18 through 75 years of age on date of encounter:
   a. If Patients 18 through 75 years of age on date of encounter equals No, do not include in Eligible Population/Denominator. Stop processing.
   b. If Patients 18 through 75 years of age on date of encounter equals Yes, proceed to Diagnosis for diabetes as listed in the Denominator*.

3. Check Diagnosis for diabetes as listed in the Denominator*:
   a. If Diagnosis for diabetes as listed in the Denominator* equals No, do not include in Eligible Population/Denominator. Stop processing.
   b. If Diagnosis for diabetes as listed in the Denominator* equals Yes, proceed to Patient encounter during the performance period as listed in Denominator*.

4. Check Patient encounter during the performance period as listed in Denominator*:
   a. If Patient encounter during the performance period as listed in Denominator* equals No, do not include in Eligible Population/Denominator. Stop processing.
   b. If Patient encounter during the performance period as listed in Denominator* equals Yes, include in Eligible Population/Denominator.

5. Denominator Population
   • 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.

6. Start Numerator

7. Check Hospice services provided to patient any time during the measurement period:
   a. If Hospice services provided to patient any time during the measurement period equals Yes, include in Data Completeness Met and Denominator Exclusion.
      • Data Completeness Met and Denominator Exclusion letter is represented as Data Completeness and Performance Rate in the Sample Calculation listed at the end of this document. Letter x equals 0 patients in the Sample Calculation.
   b. If Hospice services provided to patient any time during the measurement period equals No, proceed to Patients age 66 and over in Institutional Special Needs Plans (SNP) or residing in long-term care with a POS code 32, 33, 34, 54 or 56 for more than 90 days during the measurement period.

8. Check Patients age 66 and over in Institutional Special Needs Plans (SNP) or residing in long-term care with a POS code 32, 33, 34, 54 or 56 for more than 90 days during the measurement period.
   a. If Patients age 66 and over in Institutional Special Needs Plans (SNP) or residing in long-term care with a POS code 32, 33, 34, 54 or 56 for more than 90 days during the measurement period.
POS code 32, 33, 34, 54 or 56 for more than 90 days during the measurement period equals Yes, include in Data Completeness Met and Denominator Exclusion.

- Data Completeness Met and Denominator Exclusion letter is represented as Data Completeness and Performance Rate in the Sample Calculation listed at the end of this document. Letter $x^2$ equals 0 patients in the Sample Calculation.

b. If Patients age 66 and over in Institutional Special Needs Plans (SNP) or residing in long-term care with a POS code 32, 33, 34, 54 or 56 for more than 90 days during the measurement period equals No, proceed to Patients 66 years of age and older with at least one claim/encounter for frailty during the measurement period AND a dispensed medication for dementia during the measurement period or the year prior to the measurement period.

9. Check Patients 66 years of age and older with at least one claim/encounter for frailty during the measurement period AND a dispensed medication for dementia during the measurement period or the year prior to the measurement period.

a. If Patients 66 years of age and older with at least one claim/encounter for frailty during the measurement period AND a dispensed medication for dementia during the measurement period or the year prior to the measurement period equals Yes, include in Data Completeness Met and Denominator Exclusion.

- Data Completeness Met and Denominator Exclusion letter is represented as Data Completeness and Performance Rate in the Sample Calculation listed at the end of this document. Letter $x^3$ equals 0 patients in the Sample Calculation.

b. If Patients 66 years of age and older with at least one claim/encounter for frailty during the measurement period AND a dispensed medication for dementia during the measurement period or the year prior to the measurement period equals No, proceed to Patients 66 years of age and older with at least one claim/encounter for frailty during the measurement period AND either one acute inpatient encounter with a diagnosis of advanced illness or two outpatient, observation, ED or nonacute inpatient encounters on different dates of service with an advanced illness diagnosis during the measurement period or the year prior to the measurement period.

10. Check Patients 66 years of age and older with at least one claim/encounter for frailty during the measurement period AND either one acute inpatient encounter with a diagnosis of advanced illness or two outpatient, observation, ED or nonacute inpatient encounters on different dates of service with an advanced illness diagnosis during the measurement period or the year prior to the measurement period.

a. If Patients 66 years of age and older with at least one claim/encounter for frailty during the measurement period AND either one acute inpatient encounter with a diagnosis of advanced illness or two outpatient, observation, ED or nonacute inpatient encounters on different dates of service with an advanced illness diagnosis during the measurement period or the year prior to the measurement period equals Yes, include in Data Completeness Met and Denominator Exclusion.

- Data Completeness Met and Denominator Exclusion letter is represented as Data Completeness and Performance Rate in the Sample Calculation listed at the end of this document. Letter $x^4$ equals 0 patients in the Sample Calculation.
b. If Patients 66 years of age and older with at least one claim/encounter for frailty during the measurement period AND either one acute inpatient encounter with a diagnosis of advanced illness or two outpatient, observation, ED or nonacute inpatient encounters on different dates of service with an advanced illness diagnosis during the measurement period or the year prior to the measurement period equals No, proceed to Most recent HbA1c greater than 9.0 percent.

11. Check Most recent HbA1c greater than 9.0 percent:
   a. If Most recent HbA1c greater than 9.0 percent equals Yes, include in Data Completeness Met and Performance Met.
      • Data Completeness Met and Performance Met** letter is represented as Data Completeness and Performance Rate in the Sample Calculation listed at the end of this document. Letter a1 equals 30 patients in the Sample Calculation.
   b. If Most recent HbA1c greater than 9.0 percent equals No, proceed to Hemoglobin A1c level was not performed during the measurement period (12 months).

12. Check Hemoglobin A1c level was not performed during the measurement period (12 months):
   a. If Hemoglobin A1c level was not performed during the measurement period (12 months) equals Yes, include in Data Completeness Met and Performance Met.
      • Data Completeness Met and Performance Met** letter is represented as Data Completeness and Performance Rate in the Sample Calculation listed at the end of this document. Letter a2 equals 20 patients in the Sample Calculation.
   b. If Hemoglobin A1c level was not performed during the measurement period (12 months) equals No, proceed to Most recent hemoglobin A1c (HbA1c) level is less than 7.0 percent.

13. Check Most recent hemoglobin A1c (HbA1c) level is less than 7.0 percent:
   a. If Most recent hemoglobin A1c (HbA1c) level is less than 7.0 percent equals Yes, include in the Data Completeness Met and Performance Not Met.
      • Data Completeness Met and Performance Not Met** letter is represented as Data Completeness in the Sample Calculation listed at the end of this document. Letter c1 equals 0 patients in the Sample Calculation.
   b. If Most recent hemoglobin A1c (HbA1c) level is less than 7.0 percent equals No, proceed to Most recent hemoglobin A1c (HbA1c) level is greater than or equal to 7.0 percent and less than 8.0 percent.

14. Check Most recent hemoglobin A1c (HbA1c) level is greater than or equal to 7.0 percent and less than 8.0 percent:
   a. If Most recent hemoglobin A1c (HbA1c) level is greater than or equal to 7.0 percent and less than 8.0 percent equals Yes, include in Data Completeness Met and Performance Not Met.
      • Data Completeness Met and Performance Not Met** letter is represented as Data Completeness in the Sample Calculation listed at the end of this document. Letter c2 equals 10 patients in the Sample Calculation.
b. If Most recent hemoglobin A1c (HbA1c) level is greater than or equal to 7.0 percent and less than 8.0 percent equals No, proceed to Most recent hemoglobin A1c (HbA1c) level is greater than or equal to 8.0 percent and less than 9.0 percent.

15. Check Most recent hemoglobin A1c (HbA1c) level is greater than or equal to 8.0 percent and less than 9.0 percent.

a. If Most recent hemoglobin A1c (HbA1c) level is greater than or equal to 8.0 percent and less than 9.0 percent equals Yes include in Data Completeness Met and Performance Not Met.

   • Data Completeness Met and Performance Not Met** letter is represented as Data Completeness in the Sample Calculation listed at the end of this document. Letter c^3 equals 10 patients in the Sample Calculation.

b. If Most recent hemoglobin A1c (HbA1c) level is greater than or equal to 8.0 percent and less than 9.0 percent equals No, check Data Completeness Not Met.

16. Check Data Completeness Not Met:

a. If Data Completeness Not Met equals No, the Quality Data Code was not submitted. 10 patients have been subtracted from the Data Completeness Numerator in the Sample Calculation.

Sample Calculations

Data Completeness equals Denominator Exclusion (x^1 plus x^2 plus x^3 plus x^4 equals 0 patients) plus Performance Met (a^1 plus a^2 equals 50 patients) plus Performance Not Met (c^1 plus c^2 plus c^3 equals 20 patients) divided by Eligible Population/Denominator (d equals 80 patients). All equals 70 patients divided by 80 patients. All equals 87.5 percent.

Performance Rate equals Performance Met (a^1 plus a^2 equals 50 patients) divided by Data Completeness Numerator (70 patients) minus Denominator Exclusion (x equals zero patients). All equals 50 patients divided by 70 patients. All equals 71.43 percent.

*See the posted measure specification for specific coding and instructions to submit this measure.

**A lower calculated performance rate for this measure indicates better clinical care or control.

NOTE: Submission Frequency: Patient-Intermediate

The measure diagrams were developed by CMS as a supplemental resource to be used in conjunction with the measure specifications. They should not be used alone or as a substitution for the measure specification.