



Colorectal Cancer Screening (COL-E)

2024 Performance Year

Commercial, Medicaid, Medicare

Important Update for Medicare Advantage

NCQA has removed the Colorectal Cancer Screening (COL) administrative reporting measure and transitioned into ECDS reporting (COL-E) methodology. This new method broadens the reporting options available. ECDS measures allows plans to use administrative claims and clinical data that may come from a variety of sources such as, EHRs, HIEs/Clinical Registries, Case Management systems and Claims.

Measure Description

Percentage of patients ages 45–75 who had an appropriate screening for colorectal cancer.

Any of the following meet the criteria for a colorectal cancer screening:

- Colonoscopy during 2015-2024
- Flexible Sigmoidoscopy during 2020-2024
- CT Colonography during 2020-2024
- Stool DNA w FIT Test (Cologuard) during 2022-2024
- Fecal occult blood test (FOBT)/gFOBT (guaiac), FIT/iFOBT (immunochemical) during 2024

Note: A Stool DNA w FIT Test is a Cologuard. A FIT test is the FOBT immunochemical test. They are not the same. Ensure the appropriate test falls within the appropriate time range.

Required Exclusions

- Patients who had a colorectal cancer or a total colectomy any time during the patient's history through the end of the performance year
- Patients in hospice or elect to use a hospice benefit any time during the performance year
- Patients receiving palliative care or had an encounter for palliative care any time during the performance year
- Patients who passed away any time during the performance year

*Note: The following exclusions are closed by **claims only**.*

- Medicare patients 66 years of age and older as of the end of the performance year who meet either of the following: enrolled in an Institutional SNP (I-SNP) or residing in long-term care as identified by the LTI flag in the CMS Monthly File any time during the performance year
- Patients 66 years of age and older as of the end of the performance year with two frailty indications on different dates of service the performance year **and** an advanced illness



diagnosis on at least two different dates of service or dispensed dementia medication during the performance year or the 12 months preceding the performance year.

Measure Tips

- Documentation in the medical record must include a note indicating the date (year only is acceptable) when the colorectal cancer screening was performed. A result is not required if the documentation is clearly part of the patient's "medical history"; if this is not clear, the result or finding must also be present (this ensures that the screening was performed and not merely ordered).
- A pathology report that indicates the type of screening (e.g., colonoscopy, flexible sigmoidoscopy) and the date when the screening was performed meets criteria.
- For pathology reports that do not indicate the type of screening and for incomplete procedures:
 - Evidence that the scope advanced to the cecum meets criteria for a completed colonoscopy.
 - Evidence that the scope advanced into the sigmoid colon meets criteria for a completed flexible sigmoidoscopy.
- It's important to submit any codes that reflect a patient's history of malignancy for colorectal cancer so the patient can be excluded.
- **Use CPT/HCPCS/SNOMED codes (for lookback period)** to capture care for this ECDS measure.

Non-compliant Documentation Hints

- Tests performed in an office setting or from any specimen collected during a digital rectal exam (DRE) does not meet numerator compliance.
- CT scan of the abdomen and pelvis will not meet numerator compliance.
- Patient refusal or referrals alone does **not** meet numerator compliance.

Common Codes

Colonoscopy

CPT®: 44388, 44389, 44390, 44391, 44392, 44394, 44401, 44402, 44403, 44404, 44405, 44406, 44407, 44408, 45378, 45379, 45380, 45381, 45382, 45384, 45385, 45386, 45388, 45389, 45390, 45391, 45392, 45393, 45398

HCPCS: G0105, G0121

SNOMED: 851000119109 (history of colonoscopy)

Computed Tomography (CT) Colonography

CPT®: 74261, 74262, 74263

Stool DNA (sDNA) with FIT Test

CPT®: 81528 (specific to Cologuard)



SNOMED: 708699002 (positive finding)

Flexible Sigmoidoscopy

CPT®: 45330, 45331, 45332, 45333, 45334, 45335, 45337, 45338, 45340, 45341, 45342, 45346, 45347, 45349, 45350

HCPCS: G0104

SNOWMED: 841000119107 (history of flexible sigmoidoscopy)

FOBT

CPT®: 82270

HCPCS: G0328

FIT

CPT®: 82274

History of Total Colectomy:

SNOWMED: 119771000119101

Resources

HEDIS MY2024 Technical Specs Vol 2. Pg. 578-587