AAO16: Age-Related Hearing Loss: Comprehensive Audiometric Evaluation+

High Priority Status: Yes / Care Coordination
NQF Number: N/A

Measure Description:
Percentage of patients aged 60 years and older who failed a hearing screening and/or who report suspected hearing loss who received, were ordered, or were referred for comprehensive audiometric evaluation within 4 weeks of the office visit.

Instructions:
This measure is to be submitted a minimum of **once per performance period** for patients seen for suspected/unspecified hearing loss during the performance period. This measure may be submitted by clinicians based on the services provided and the measure-specific denominator coding.

Denominator:
All patients aged 60 years and older who failed a hearing screening and/or who report suspected hearing loss.

Denominator Note:
To meet the denominator criteria, a patient must present with first time hearing difficulties, or hearing difficulties are suspected. Patients with a confirmed diagnosis of hearing loss are excluded from this measure.

Denominator Exclusions:
None

Numerator:
Patients who received, were ordered, or were referred for comprehensive audiometric evaluation* within 4 weeks of the office visit

*Comprehensive audiometric evaluation: The hearing evaluation should include a physical examination of the patient's ears and an evaluation of the patient's hearing acuity using an audiometer in a sound booth. The hearing evaluation may include the use of pure tone audiometry, bone conduction hearing testing, Hearing in Noise Test, speech tests, acoustic reflex text, auditory brainstem response testing (e.g. when patient is not able to complete behavioral audiometry) or other appropriate hearing evaluation tests

Numerator Note:
To meet the intent of the measure, the numerator quality action must be performed during or within 4 weeks of the encounter in which suspected hearing loss is documented.

Denominator Exceptions:
Medical reason(s) for not evaluating for hearing loss include patients who had an audiogram within last year; patients with an active diagnosis of deafness, hearing impairment, head or ear trauma, history of other hearing impairment. Patient refusal.

Measure Classifications:
Submission Pathway: Traditional MIPS
Measure Type: Process
National Quality Strategy (NQS) domain: Communication and Care Coordination
Meaningful Measures Area: Preventive Care
Care Setting(s): Ambulatory Care: Clinician Office/Clinic
Includes Telehealth: Yes
Number of Performance Rates: 1
    Inverse measure: No
    Continuous measure: No
    Proportional measure: Yes
    Ratio measure: No
    Risk Adjusted measure: No

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