

Quality Measures Specifications for PY 2013 and PY 2014 ESRD QIP Final Rule

November 1, 2011

Anemia Management – Hemoglobin > 12 g/dl

Measure Description

This measure reports the percentage of eligible Medicare dialysis patients with a mean hemoglobin value greater than 12.0 g/dL.

Data Source

Medicare claims

Care Setting

Dialysis provider/facility

Measurement Duration

The measurement duration is 12 months. Patients with at least 4 months of eligible claims at the facility are included.

Improvement Notation

Better quality=Lower Proportion

Denominator

The number of eligible Medicare dialysis patients at the facility during the measurement (baseline or performance) period.

The denominator will include all dialysis patients 18 years and older with ESRD for 90 days or longer, who are treated with erythropoiesis stimulating agents (ESAs), and have valid hemoglobin values.

A hemoglobin value is considered valid if it is greater than or equal to 5 g/dl and less than or equal to 20 g/dl. When hematocrit is reported on the claim it is changed to hemoglobin by dividing by 3 and rounding to the first decimal place. After the criteria above are met we restrict to the last claim of the month for a patient at a facility. A patient must have at least 4 months of eligible claims at the facility to be included in the denominator.

Denominator Exclusions

Claims are excluded if any of the following criteria are met:

- Patient is less than 18 years old as of the start of the claim, or
- Patient is in the first 89 days of ESRD as of the start of the claim, or
- Patient's reported hemoglobin value (or hematocrit value divided by 3) is less than 5 g/dl or greater than 20 g/dl, or
- Patient is not treated with ESAs according to the claim, specifically epoetin alfa or darbepoetin alfa, or
- Patient has fewer than 4 months of eligible claims at the facility in the measurement period.

Numerator

Number of eligible Medicare dialysis patients at the facility during the measurement period with a mean hemoglobin value greater than 12.0 g/dl.

Patients from the denominator are included in the numerator if the mean of their monthly hemoglobin values (rounded to a single decimal place) is greater than 12.0 g/dl.