



## **2020 CMS Web Interface**

**PREV-12 (NQF 0418): Preventive Care and Screening:  
Screening for Depression and Follow-Up Plan**

**Measure Steward: CMS**

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## **INTRODUCTION**

There are a total of 10 individual measures included in the 2020 CMS Web Interface targeting high-cost chronic conditions, preventive care, and patient safety. The measures documents are represented individually and contain measure specific information. The corresponding coding documents are posted separately in an Excel format.

The measure documents are being provided to allow organizations an opportunity to better understand each of the 10 individual measures included in the 2020 CMS Web Interface data submission method. Each measured document contains information necessary to submit data through the CMS Web Interface.

Narrative specifications, supporting submission documentation, and calculation flows are provided within each document. Please review all of the measure documentation in its entirety to ensure complete understanding of these measures.

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## **CMS WEB INTERFACE SAMPLING INFORMATION**

### **BENEFICIARY SAMPLING**

For more information on the sampling process and methodology please refer to the 2020 CMS Web Interface Sampling Document, which will be made available during the performance year at CMS.gov.

## NARRATIVE MEASURE SPECIFICATION

### **DESCRIPTION:**

Percentage of patients aged 12 years and older screened for depression on the date of the encounter or 14 days prior to the date of the encounter using an age appropriate standardized depression screening tool AND if positive, a follow-up plan is documented on the date of the eligible encounter

### **IMPROVEMENT NOTATION:**

Higher score indicates better quality

### **INITIAL POPULATION:**

All patients aged 12 years and older at the beginning of the measurement period with at least one eligible encounter during the measurement period

### **DENOMINATOR:**

Equals Initial Population

#### **DENOMINATOR EXCLUSIONS:**

Patients with an active diagnosis for depression or a diagnosis of bipolar disorder

#### **DENOMINATOR EXCEPTIONS:**

Patient Reason(s): Patient refuses to participate

**OR**

Medical Reason(s): Patient is in an urgent or emergent situation where time is of the essence and to delay treatment would jeopardize the patient's health status

**OR**

Situations where the patient's cognitive capacity, functional capacity or motivation to improve may impact the accuracy of results of standardized depression assessment tools. For example: certain court appointed cases or cases of delirium

### **NUMERATOR:**

Patients screened for depression on the date of the encounter or up to 14 days prior to the date of the encounter using an age appropriate standardized tool AND if positive, a follow-up plan is documented on the date of the eligible encounter

#### **NUMERATOR EXCLUSIONS:**

Not Applicable

### **DEFINITIONS:**

**Screening:** Completion of a clinical or diagnostic tool used to identify people at risk of developing or having a certain disease or condition, even in the absence of symptoms.

**Standardized Depression Screening Tool** – A normalized and validated depression screening tool developed for the patient population in which it is being utilized.

Examples of depression screening tools include but are not limited to:

- **Adolescent Screening Tools (12-17 years)**
  - Patient Health Questionnaire for Adolescents (PHQ-A)
  - Beck Depression Inventory-Primary Care Version (BDI-PC)
  - Mood Feeling Questionnaire (MFQ)
  - Center for Epidemiologic Studies Depression Scale (CES-D)
  - Patient Health Questionnaire (PHQ-9)
  - Pediatric Symptom Checklist (PSC-17)
  - PRIME MD-PHQ-2

- **Adult Screening Tools (18 years and older)**
  - Patient Health Questionnaire (PHQ-9)
  - Beck Depression Inventory (BDI or BDI-II)
  - Center for Epidemiologic Studies Depression Scale (CES-D)
  - Depression Scale (DEPS)
  - Duke Anxiety-Depression Scale (DADS)
  - Geriatric Depression Scale (GDS)
  - Cornell Scale for Depression in Dementia (CSDD)
  - PRIME MD-PHQ-2
  - Hamilton Rating Scale for Depression (HAM-D)
  - Quick Inventory of Depressive Symptomatology Self-Report (QID-SR)
  - Computerized Adaptive Testing Depression Inventory (CAT-DI)
  - Computerized Adaptive Diagnostic Screener (CAD-MDD)
- **Perinatal Screening Tools**
  - Edinburgh Postnatal Depression Scale
  - Postpartum Depression Screening Scale
  - Patient Health Questionnaire 9 (PHQ-9)
  - Beck Depression Inventory
  - Beck Depression Inventory–II
  - Center for Epidemiologic Studies Depression Scale
  - Zung Self-rating Depression Scale

**Follow-Up Plan:** Documented follow-up for a positive depression screening **must** include one or more of the following:

- Additional evaluation or assessment for depression
- Suicide Risk Assessment
- Referral to a practitioner who is qualified to diagnose and treat depression
- Pharmacological interventions
- Other interventions or follow-up for the diagnosis or treatment of depression

**GUIDANCE:**

A depression screen is completed on the date of the encounter or up to 14 days prior to the date of the encounter using an age appropriate standardized depression screening tool AND if positive, either additional evaluation for depression, suicide risk assessment, referral to a practitioner who is qualified to diagnose and treat depression, pharmacological interventions, or other interventions or follow-up for the diagnosis or treatment of depression is documented on the date of the eligible encounter

Depression screening is required once per measurement period, not at all encounters; this is patient based and not an encounter based measure.

**Screening Tools:**

- The name of the age appropriate standardized depression screening tool utilized must be documented in the medical record
- The depression screening must be reviewed and addressed in the office of the provider filing the code, on the date of the encounter. Positive pre-screening results indicating a patient is at high risk for self-harm should receive more urgent intervention as determined by the provider practice

- The screening should occur during a qualified encounter or up to 14 days prior to the date of the qualifying encounter
- Standardized depression screening tools should be normalized and validated for the age appropriate patient population in which they are used

**Follow-Up Plan:**

The follow-up plan must be related to a positive depression screening, example: "Patient referred for psychiatric evaluation due to positive depression screening."

Examples of a follow-up plan include but are not limited to:

- Additional evaluation or assessment for depression such as psychiatric interview, psychiatric evaluation, or assessment for bipolar disorder
- Completion of any Suicide Risk Assessment such as Beck Depression Inventory or Beck Hopelessness Scale
- Referral to a practitioner or program for further evaluation for depression, for example, referral to a psychiatrist, psychologist, social worker, mental health counselor, or other mental health service such as family or group therapy, support group, depression management program, or other service for treatment of depression
- Other interventions designed to treat depression such as psychotherapy, pharmacological interventions, or additional treatment options
- Pharmacologic treatment for depression is often indicated during pregnancy and/or lactation. Review and discussion of the risks of untreated versus treated depression is advised. Consideration of each patient's prior disease and treatment history, along with the risk profiles for individual pharmacologic agents, is important when selecting pharmacologic therapy with the greatest likelihood of treatment effect.

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## SUBMISSION GUIDANCE

### PATIENT CONFIRMATION

Establishing patient eligibility for submission requires the following:

- Determine if the patient's medical record can be found
  - If you can locate the medical record select "Yes"
- OR**
- If you cannot locate the medical record select "No - Medical Record Not Found"
- OR**
- Determine if the patient is qualified for the sample
  - If the patient is deceased, in hospice, moved out of the country, or did not have Fee-for-Service (FFS) Medicare as their primary payer select "Not Qualified for Sample", select the applicable reason from the provided drop-down menu, and enter the date the patient became ineligible

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### **Guidance** Patient Confirmation

**If "No – Medical Record Not Found" or "Not Qualified for Sample" is selected**, the patient is completed but not confirmed. The patient will be "skipped" and another patient must be reported in their place, if available. The CMS Web Interface will automatically skip any patient for whom "No – Medical Record Not Found" or "Not Qualified for Sample" is selected in all other measures into which they have been sampled.

**If "Not Qualified for Sample" is selected and the date is unknown**, you may enter the last date of the measurement period (i.e., 12/31/2020).

**The Measurement Period is defined** as January 1 – December 31, 2020.

#### **NOTE:**

- **In Hospice:** Select this option if the patient is not qualified for sample due to being in hospice care at any time during the measurement period (this includes non-hospice patients receiving palliative goals or comfort care)
  - **Moved out of Country:** Select this option if the patient is not qualified for sample because they moved out of the country any time during the measurement period
  - **Deceased:** Select this option if the patient died during the measurement period
  - **Non-FFS Medicare:** Select this option if the patient was enrolled in Non-FFS Medicare at any time during the measurement period (i.e., commercial payers, Medicare Advantage, Non-FFS Medicare, HMOs, etc.) This exclusion is intended to remove beneficiaries for whom Fee-for-Service Medicare is not the primary payer.
-



## SUBMISSION GUIDANCE

### DENOMINATOR CONFIRMATION

- Determine if the patient is qualified for the measure
  - If the patient is qualified for this measure select “Yes”
- OR
- If there is a denominator exclusion for patient disqualification from the measure select [“Denominator Exclusion”](#)
- OR
- If there is an “other” CMS approved reason for patient disqualification from the measure select “No - Other CMS Approved Reason”

Denominator Exclusion codes can be found in the 2020 CMS Web Interface PREV Coding Document. The Downloadable Resource Mapping Table can be located in Appendix II of this document.

### **Guidance** **Denominator**

**Denominator Exclusion Timing** - prior to any encounter during the measurement period.

**If “Denominator Exclusion” or “No – Other CMS Approved Reason” is selected**, the patient will be “skipped” and another patient must be reported in their place, if available. The patient will only be removed from the measure for which one of these options was selected, not all CMS Web Interface measures.

**Other CMS Approved Reason** is reserved for unique cases that are not covered by any of the above stated skip reasons. To gain CMS approval, submit a skip request by selecting Request Other CMS Approved Reason in the patient qualification question for the measure. Note that skip requests can only be submitted manually through the CMS Web Interface.

To submit a skip request, follow these steps:

1. After confirming the beneficiary for the sample, scroll to the measure you would like to skip.
2. When confirming if the beneficiary is qualified for the measure, select Request Other CMS Approved Reason.
3. In the skip request modal, review the organization you are reporting for and provide the submitter's email address. CMS uses this email to send status updates and/or reach out if further information is needed to resolve the skip request. You also need to provide specific information about the beneficiary's condition and why it disqualifies the beneficiary from this measure. Never include Personally Identifiable Information (PII) or Protected Health Information (PHI) in the case.

Beneficiaries remain incomplete until CMS resolves the skip request. The CMS Web Interface automatically updates the resolution of a skip request, either approved or denied. Beneficiaries for whom a CMS Approved Reason is approved are marked as Skipped and another beneficiary must be reported in their place, if available.

### **NOTE:**

- **The term “active diagnosis” is defined** as a diagnosis that is either on the patient's problem list, a diagnosis code description listed on the encounter, or is documented in a progress note indicating that the patient is being treated or managed for the disease or condition during the measurement period

## SUBMISSION GUIDANCE

### NUMERATOR SUBMISSION

- Determine if the patient was screened for depression using an [age appropriate standardized](#) tool during the measurement period
  - If the patient was screened for depression using a standardized tool select “Yes”
- OR**
- If the patient was not screened for depression using a standardized tool select “No”
- OR**
- If the patient was not screened for depression using a standardized tool due to a medical reason select “No - [Denominator Exception](#) – Medical Reasons”
- OR**
- If the patient was not screened for depression using a standardized tool due to a patient reason select “No - [Denominator Exception](#) – Patient Reasons”

Numerator and Denominator Exception codes can be found in the 2020 CMS Web Interface PREV Coding Document. The Downloadable Resource Mapping Table can be located in Appendix II of this document.

### **Guidance** Numerator

#### **NOTE:**

- **Use most recent screening** for depression
- **Although the patient may have access to the depression screening tool in advance** of the appointment the depression screening results must be documented on the date of the encounter (date of appointment). The results must be reviewed/verified and documented by the eligible professional in the medical record on the date of the encounter to meet the screening portion of this measure
- **Screening for depression** may be completed during a telehealth encounter
- **Denominator Exception timing** is during the encounter during the measurement period

## SUBMISSION GUIDANCE

**NUMERATOR SUBMISSION**

- Determine if the screen was positive for depression during the measurement period
  - If the patient's screen was positive for depression using a standardized tool select "Yes"  
IF YES
    - Determine if a [follow-up plan](#) for depression was documented on the date of the positive screen
      - If a follow-up plan for depression was documented select "Yes"
  - OR
    - If a follow-up plan for depression was not documented select "No"
  - OR
- If the patient's screen was not positive for depression using a standardized tool select "No"

Numerator codes can be found in the 2020 CMS Web Interface PREV Coding Document. The Downloadable Resource Mapping Table can be located in Appendix II of this document.

**Guidance Numerator****NOTE:**

- **Screening for Depression Documented as Negative**, follow-up plan not required
- **Documentation of recommended follow-up plan for a positive depression screen** may be completed during a telehealth encounter
- **If recommended follow-up is additional evaluation or assessment**, the additional evaluation or assessment must occur at the eligible encounter
- **Positive or Negative**-Whether or not a standardized screening tool score is considered positive or negative would be determined by the eligible professional administering and reviewing the standardized tool. If the result is positive, documentation of a recommended follow-up is required.
- **This measure does not require documentation of a specific score**, just whether results of the normalized and validated depression screening tool used are considered positive or negative. Each standardized screening tool provides guidance on whether a particular score is considered positive for depression.

## **DOCUMENTATION REQUIREMENTS**

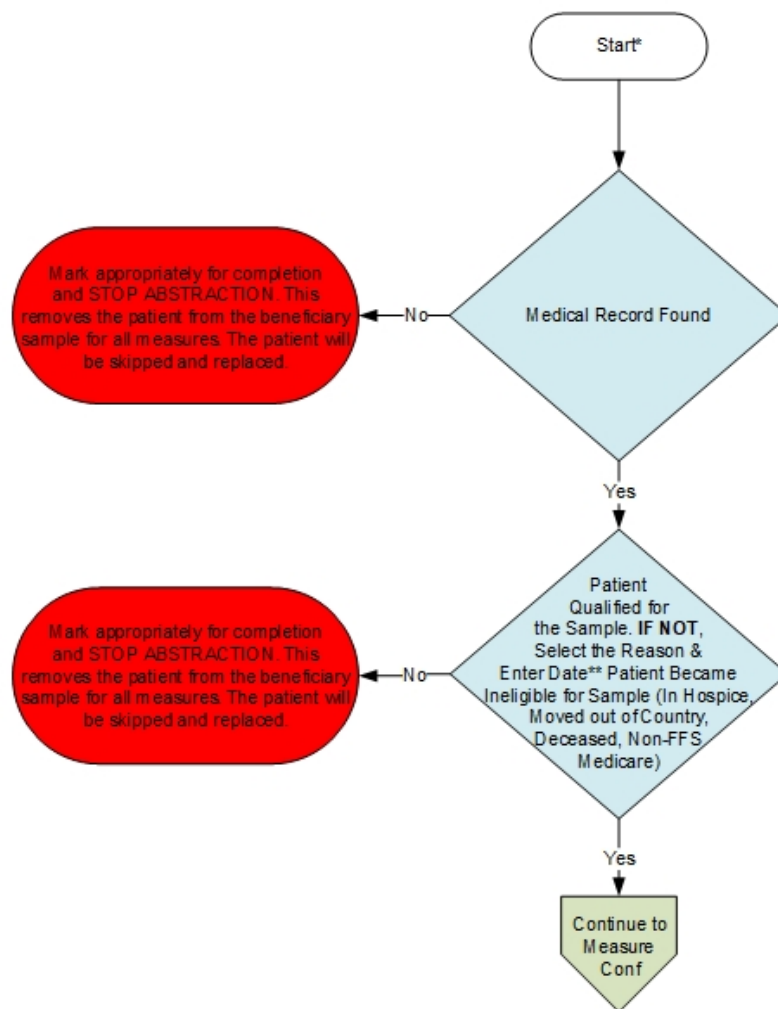
When submitting data through the CMS Web Interface, the expectation is that medical record documentation is available that supports the action reported in the CMS Web Interface i.e., medical record documentation is necessary to support the information that has been submitted.

## Appendix I: Performance Calculation Flow

**Disclaimer:** Refer to the measure submission document for specific coding and instructions to submit this measure.

## Patient Confirmation Flow

For 2020, confirmation of the "Medical Record Found", or indicating the patient is "Not Qualified for Sample" with a reason of "In Hospice", "Moved out of Country", "Deceased", or "Non-FFS Medicare", will only need to be done **once** per patient.

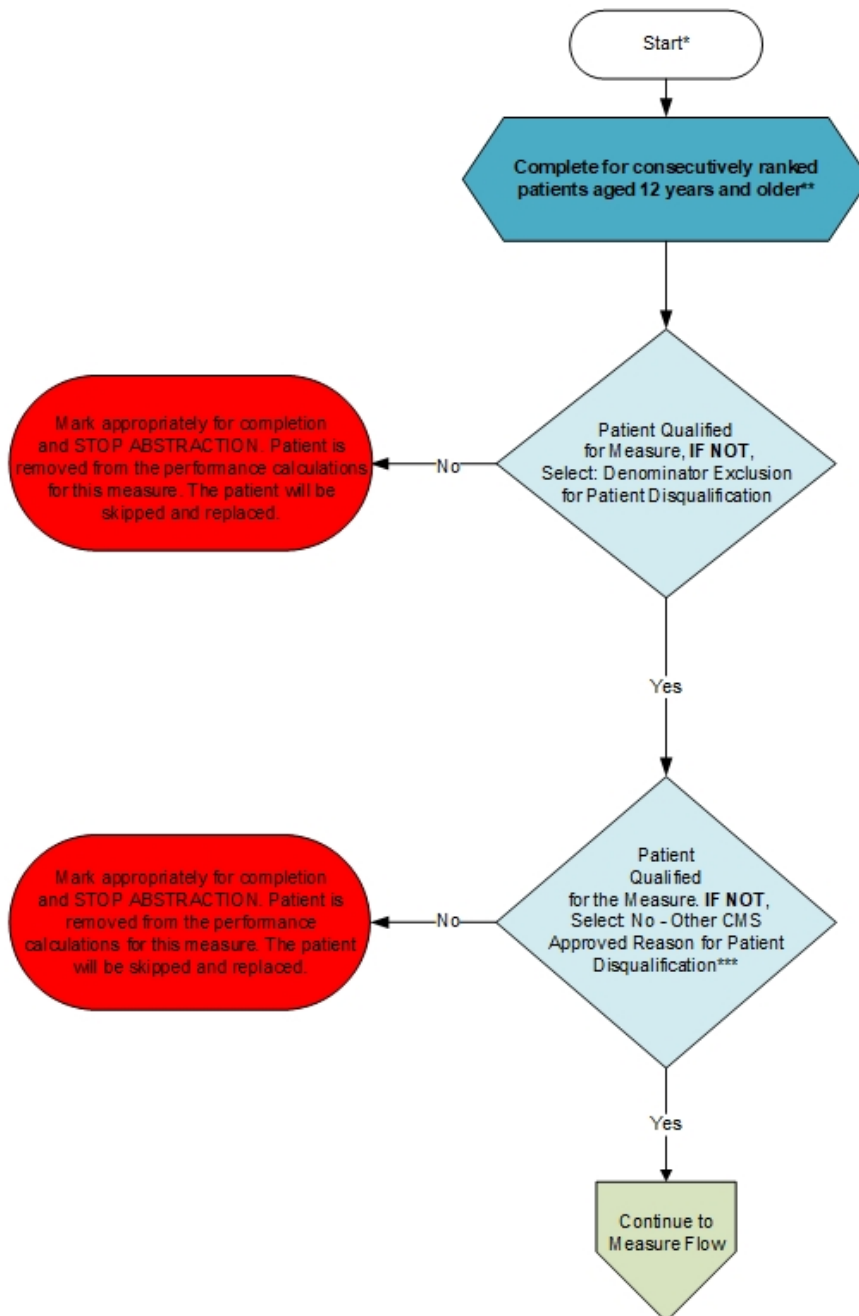


\*See the posted measure submission document for specific coding and instructions to submit this measure.

\*\*If date is unknown, enter 12/31/2020

## Measure Confirmation Flow for PREV-12

For 2020, measure specific reasons a patient is "Not Confirmed" or excluded for "Denominator Exclusion" or "Other CMS Approved Reason" will need to be done for each measure where the patient appears.

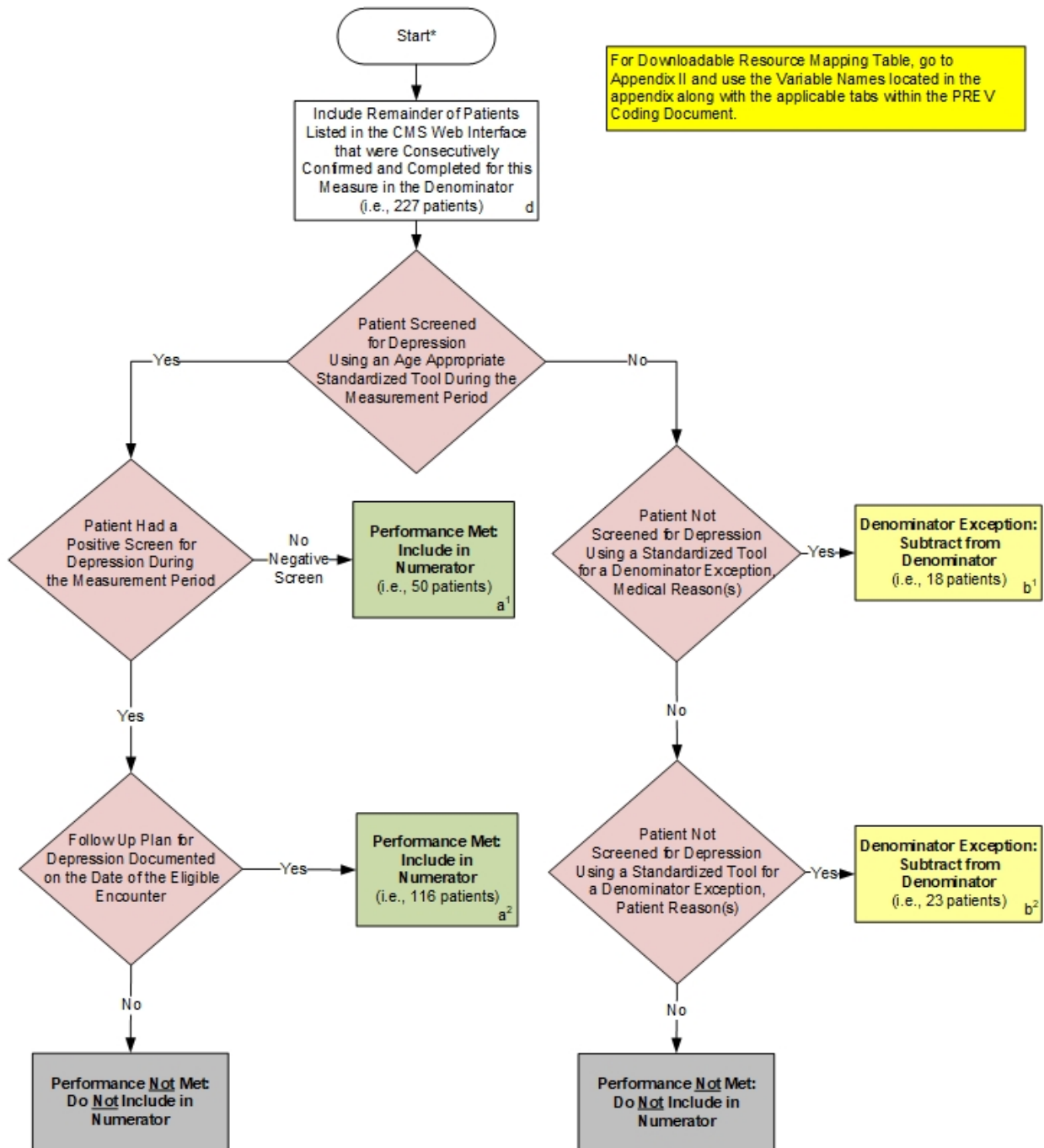


\*See the posted measure submission document for specific coding and instructions to submit this measure.

\*\*Further information regarding patient selection for specific disease and patient care measures can be found in the CMS Web Interface Sampling Methodology Document. For patients who have the incorrect date of birth listed, a change of the patient date of birth by the abstractor may result in the patient no longer qualifying for the PREV-12 measure. If this is the case, the system will automatically remove the patient from the measure requirements.

\*\*\*Other CMS Approved Reason may only be selected if the CMS Web Interface updated the resolution of the skip request to be "Approved".

## Measure Flow for PREV-12



## SAMPLE CALCULATION:

Performance Rate=

$$\frac{\text{Performance Met (a}^1\text{=50 patients + a}^2\text{=116 patients)}}{\text{Denominator (d=227 patients) - Denominator Exception (b}^1\text{=18 patients + b}^2\text{=23 patients)}} = \frac{166 \text{ patients}}{186 \text{ patients}} = 89.25\%$$

CALCULATION MAY CHANGE PENDING PERFORMANCES MET ABOVE

\*See the posted measure submission document for specific coding and instructions to submit this measure.

### Patient Confirmation Flow

For 2020, confirmation of the “Medical Record Found”, or indicating the patient is “Not Qualified for Sample” with a reason of “In Hospice”, “Moved out of Country”, “Deceased”, or “Non-FFS Medicare”, will only need to be done **once** per patient.

1. Start Patient Confirmation Flow.
2. Check to determine if Medical Record can be found.
  - a. If no, Medical Record not found, mark appropriately for completion and stop abstraction. This removes the patient from the beneficiary sample for all measures. The patient will be skipped and replaced. Stop processing.
  - b. If yes, Medical Record found, continue processing.
3. Check to determine if Patient Qualified for the sample.
  - a. If no, the patient does not qualify for the sample, select the reason why and enter the date (if date is unknown, enter 12/31/2020) the patient became ineligible for sample. For example; In Hospice, Moved out of Country, Deceased, Non-FFS Medicare. Mark appropriately for completion and stop abstraction. This removes the patient from the beneficiary sample for all measures. The patient will be skipped and replaced. Stop processing.
  - b. If yes, the patient does qualify for the sample; continue to the Measure Confirmation Flow for PREV-12.



### **Measure Confirmation Flow for PREV-12**

For 2020, measure specific reasons a patient is “Not Confirmed” or excluded for “Denominator Exclusion” or “Other CMS Approved Reason” will need to be done for each measure where the patient appears.

1. Start Measure Confirmation Flow for PREV-12. Complete for consecutively ranked patients aged 12 years and older. Further information regarding patient selection for specific disease and patient care measures can be found in the CMS Web Interface Sampling Methodology Document. For patients who have the incorrect date of birth listed, a change of the patient date of birth by the abstractor may result in the patient no longer qualifying for the PREV-12 measure. If this is the case, the system will automatically remove the patient from the measure requirements.
2. Check to determine if the patient qualifies for the measure (Denominator Exclusion).
  - a. If no, the patient does not qualify for the measure select: Denominator Exclusion for patient disqualification. Mark appropriately for completion and stop abstraction. Patient is removed from the performance calculations for this measure. The patient will be skipped and replaced. Stop processing.
  - b. If yes, the patient does qualify for the measure, continue processing.
3. Check to determine if the patient qualifies for the measure (Other CMS Approved Reason).
  - a. If no, the patient does not qualify for the measure select: No – Other CMS Approved Reason for patient disqualification. Mark appropriately for completion and stop abstraction. Patient is removed from the performance calculations for this measure. The patient will be skipped and replaced. “Other CMS Approved Reason” may only be selected if the CMS Web Interface updated the resolution of the skip request to be “Approved”. Stop processing.
  - b. If yes, the patient does qualify for the measure, continue to the PREV-12 measure flow.

**Measure Flow for PREV-12**

For Downloadable Resource Mapping Table, go to Appendix II and use the Variable Names located in the appendix along with the applicable tabs within the PREV Coding Document.

1. Start processing 2020 PREV-12 (NQF 0418) Flow for the patients that qualified for sample in the Patient Confirmation Flow and the Measure Confirmation Flow for PREV-12. **Note:** Include remainder of patients listed in the CMS Web Interface that were consecutively confirmed and completed for this measure in the denominator. For the sample calculation in the flow these patients would fall into the 'd' category (eligible denominator, i.e. 227 patients).
2. Check to determine if the patient was screened for depression using an age appropriate standardized tool during the measurement period.
  - a. If no, the patient was not screened for depression using an age appropriate standardized tool during the measurement period, continue processing and proceed to step 5.
  - b. If yes, the patient was screened for depression using an age appropriate standardized tool during the measurement period, continue processing.
3. Check to determine if the patient had a positive screen for depression during the measurement period.
  - a. If no, the patient did not have a positive screen for depression during the measurement period, performance is met and the patient will be included in the numerator. For the sample calculation in the flow these patients would fall into the 'a' category (numerator, i.e. 50 patients). Stop processing.
  - b. If yes, patient had a positive screen for depression during the measurement period, continue processing.
4. Check to determine if the patient had a follow-up plan for depression documented on the date of the eligible encounter.
  - a. If no, the patient did not have a follow-up plan for depression documented on the date of the eligible encounter, performance is not met and the patient should not be included in the numerator. Stop processing.
  - b. If yes, the patient had a follow-up plan for depression documented on the date of the eligible encounter, performance is met and the patient will be included in the numerator. For the sample calculation in the flow these patients would fall into the 'a' category (numerator, i.e. 116 patients). Stop processing.
5. Check to determine if the patient was Not screened for depression using a standardized tool for a denominator exception, medical reason(s).
  - a. If no, the patient was Not screened for depression using a standardized tool for a denominator exception, medical reason(s), continue processing.
  - b. If yes, the patient was Not screened for depression using a standardized tool for a denominator exception, medical reason(s), this is a denominator exception and the case should be subtracted from the denominator. For the sample calculation in the flow these patients would fall into the 'b' category (denominator exception, i.e. 18 patients). Stop processing.
6. Check to determine if the patient was Not screened for depression using a standardized tool for a denominator exception, patient reason(s).

- a. If no, the patient was Not screened for depression using a standardized tool for a denominator exception, patient reason(s), performance is not met and the patient should not be included in the numerator. Stop processing.
- b. If yes, the patient was Not screened for depression using a standardized tool for a denominator exception, patient reason(s), this is a denominator exception and the case should be subtracted from the denominator. For the sample calculation in the flow these patients would fall into the 'b' category (denominator exception, i.e. 23 patients). Stop processing.

**SAMPLE CALCULATION:**

Performance Rate=

$$\frac{\text{Performance Met (a}^1\text{=50 patients + a}^2\text{=116 patients)}}{\text{Denominator (d=227 patients) - Denominator Exception (b}^1\text{=18 patients + b}^2\text{=23 patients)}} = \frac{166 \text{ patients}}{186 \text{ patients}} = 89.25\%$$

CALCULATION MAY CHANGE PENDING PERFORMANCES MET ABOVE

**Appendix II: Downloadable Resource Mapping Table**

Each data element within this measure's denominator or numerator is defined as a pre-determined set of clinical codes. These codes can be found in the 2020 CMS Web Interface PREV Coding Document.

**\*PREV-12: Preventive Care and Screening: Screening for Depression and Follow-Up Plan**

Measure Component/Excel Tab	Data Element	Variable Name	Coding System(s)
Denominator Exclusion/ Denominator Exclusion Codes	Exclusion	BIPOLAR_DX_CODE	I9 I10 SNM
	Exclusion	DEPRESSION_DX_CODE	I9 I10 SNM
Numerator/Numerator Codes/Numerator Drug Codes	Depression Screen	SCREENING_CODE	LOINC
	Depression Screen	NEG_SCREENING_CODE	SNM
	Depression Screen	POS_SCREENING_CODE	SNM
	Follow-up Plan (for Positive Screen)	ADDITIONAL_EVAL_CODE	SNM
	Follow-up Plan (for Positive Screen)	FOLLOW_UP_CODE	SNM
	Follow-up Plan (for Positive Screen)	REFERRAL_CODE	SNM
	Follow-up Plan (for Positive Screen)	SUICIDE_RISK_CODE	SNM
	Follow-up Plan (for Positive Screen)	DEP_DRUG_CODE	RxNorm (Drug EX=N)
Denominator Exception/ Denominator Exception Codes	Medical Reason	MEDICAL_OTHER_REASON	SNM
	Patient Reason	PATIENT_REASON_REFUSED	SNM

\* For EHR mapping, the coding within PREV-12 is considered to be all inclusive

**Appendix III: Measure Rationale and Clinical Recommendation Statements****RATIONALE:**

Depression is a serious medical illness associated with higher rates of chronic disease increased health care utilization, and impaired functioning (Pratt & Brody, 2014). 2016 U.S. survey data indicate that 12.8 percent of adolescents (2.2 million adolescents) had a major depressive episode (MDE) in the past year, with nine percent of adolescents (2.2 million adolescents) having one MDE with severe impairment; 6.7 percent of adults aged 18 or older (16.2 million adults) had at least one MDE in the past year, with 4.3 percent of adults (10.3 million adults) having one MDE with severe impairment in the past year (Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, 2017). Data indicate that severity of depressive symptoms factor into having difficulty with work, home, or social activities. For example, as the severity of depressive symptoms increased, rates of having difficulty with work, home, or social activities related to depressive symptoms increased. For those twelve and older with mild depressive symptoms, 45.7% reported difficulty with activities and those with severe depressive symptoms, 88.0% reported difficulty. (Pratt & Brody, 2014). Children and teens with major depressive disorder (MDD) has been found to have difficulty carrying out their daily activities, relating to others, and growing up healthy with an increased risk of suicide (Siu & the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force [USPSTF], 2016). Additionally, perinatal depression (considered here as depression arising in the period from conception to the end of the first postnatal year) affects up to 15% of women. Depression and other mood disorders, such as bipolar disorder and anxiety disorders, especially during the perinatal period, can have devastating effects on women, infants, and families (Molenaar et al., 2018). Maternal suicide rates rise over hemorrhage and hypertensive disorders as a cause of maternal mortality (American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, 2015).

Negative outcomes associated with depression make it crucial to screen in order to identify and treat depression in its early stages. While Primary Care Providers (PCPs) serve as the first line of defense in the detection of depression, studies show that PCPs fail to recognize up to 50% of depressed patients: "Coyle et al. (2003), suggested that the picture is more grim for adolescents, and that more than 70% of children and adolescents suffering from serious mood disorders go unrecognized or inadequately treated" (Borner et al., 2010, p. 948). "In nationally representative U.S. surveys, about eight percent of adolescents reported having major depression in the past year. Only 36% to 44% of children and adolescents with depression receive treatment, suggesting that the majority of depressed youth are undiagnosed and untreated" (Sui on behalf of USPSTF, 2016, p. 360 & 364). Evidence supports that screening for depression in pregnant and postpartum women is of moderate net benefit and treatment options for positive depression screening should be available for patients twelve and older including pregnant and postpartum women.

If preventing negative patient outcomes is not enough, the substantial economic burden of depression for individuals and society alike makes a case for screening for depression on a regular basis. Depression imposes economic burden through direct and indirect costs. "In the United States, an estimated \$22.8 billion was spent on depression treatment in 2009, and lost productivity cost an additional estimated \$23 billion in 2011" (Sui & USPSTF, 2016, p. 383-384).

This measure seeks to align with clinical guideline recommendations as well as the Healthy People 2020 recommendation for routine screening for mental health problems as a part of primary care for both children and adults (U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, 2014) and makes an important contribution to the quality domain of community and population health.

**CLINICAL RECOMMENDATION STATEMENTS:**

**Adolescent Recommendation (12-18 years):**

“The USPSTF recommends screening for MDD in adolescents aged 12 to 18 years. Screening should be implemented with adequate systems in place to ensure accurate diagnosis, effective treatment, and appropriate follow-up (B recommendation)” (Sui on behalf of USPSTF, 2016, p. 360).

“Clinicians and health care systems should try to consistently screen adolescents, ages 12-18, for major depressive disorder, but only when systems are in place to ensure accurate diagnosis, careful selection of treatment, and close follow-up” (Wilkinson et al., 2013. p. 16).

**Adult Recommendation (18 years and older):**

“The USPSTF recommends screening for depression in the general adult population, including pregnant and postpartum women. Screening should be implemented with adequate systems in place to ensure accurate diagnosis, effective treatment, and appropriate follow-up (B recommendation)” (Sui & USPSTF, 2016, p. 380).

The Institute for Clinical Systems Improvement (ICSI) health care guideline, Adult Depression in Primary Care, provides the following recommendations:

1. “Clinicians should routinely screen all adults for depression using a standardized instrument.”
2. “Clinicians should establish and maintain follow-up with patients.”

“Clinicians should screen and monitor depression in pregnant and post-partum women.” (Trangle et al., 2016 p 8-10).-

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