Tuberculosis Screening

*This measure is to be reported for all patients 18 years and older with RA — a minimum of **once** per reporting period. It is anticipated that clinicians who provide care for patients with a diagnosis of RA will submit this measure.*

Measure description

Percentage of patients 18 years and older with a diagnosis of RA who have documentation of a tuberculosis (TB) screening performed and results interpreted within 6 months prior to receiving a first course of therapy using a biologic disease-modifying anti-rheumatic drug (DMARD)

What will you need to report for each patient with RA for this measure?

If you select this measure for reporting, you will report:

- Whether or not the patient is receiving first-time biologic DMARD therapy[1, 2]

If the patient is receiving DMARD therapy[1], you will then need to report:

- Whether or not you performed a tuberculosis screening and interpreted results within 6 months prior to receiving a first course of therapy using a biologic DMARD

What if this process or outcome of care is not appropriate for your patient?

There may be times when it is not appropriate to perform a tuberculosis screening, due to:

- Medical reasons (ie, patient positive for tuberculosis and documentation of past treatment; patient who has recently completed a course of anti-TB therapy)

In these cases, you will need to indicate that a medical reason applies, and specify the reason on the worksheet and in the medical chart. The office/billing staff will then report a code with a modifier that represents these valid reasons (also called exclusions).

[1]Biologic DMARD therapy includes Adalimunab, Etanercept, Infliximab, Abatacept, Anakinra (Rituximab is excluded).

[2]First course of therapy: only patients who have previously never been prescribed or dispensed biologic DMARD therapy should be included in this measure.

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