

Carotid Imaging Reports

*This measure is to be reported **each time** a carotid imaging study is performed for patients aged 18 years and older in a hospital or outpatient setting for patients with ischemic stroke or transient ischemic attack (TIA) during the reporting period. It is anticipated that clinicians who provide the physician component of diagnostic imaging studies will submit this measure.*

Measure description

Percentage of final reports for carotid imaging studies (neck MR angiography [MRA], neck CT angiography [CTA], neck duplex ultrasound, carotid angiogram) performed for patients aged 18 years and older with the diagnosis of ischemic stroke or transient ischemic attack (TIA) that include direct or indirect reference to measurements of distal internal carotid diameter as the denominator for stenosis measurement¹

What will you need to report for each patient undergoing a carotid imaging study for this measure?

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

- Whether or not the final report for carotid imaging study includes direct or indirect reference to measurements of distal internal carotid diameter as the denominator for stenosis measurement

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

There may be times when it is not appropriate to reference measurements of distal internal carotid diameter as the denominator for stenosis measurement, due to:

- Medical reasons (eg, not indicated, contraindicated, other medical reason)

In these cases, you will need to indicate that the 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“Direct or indirect reference to measurements of distal internal carotid diameter as the denominator for stenosis measurement” includes direct angiographic stenosis calculations based on the distal lumen as the denominator for stenosis measurement OR an equivalent validated method referenced to the above method (eg, for duplex ultrasound studies, velocity parameters that correlate the *residual* internal carotid lumen with methods based on the *distal* internal carotid lumen).