

Discontinuation of Prophylactic Antibiotics (Cardiac Procedures)

*This measure is to be reported **each time** a cardiac surgical procedure with the indications for prophylactic antibiotics¹ is performed for patients aged 18 years and older during the reporting period.*

Measure description

Percentage of cardiac surgical patients aged 18 years and older undergoing procedures with the indications for prophylactic antibiotics AND who received a prophylactic antibiotic, who have an order for discontinuation of prophylactic antibiotics within 48 hours of surgical end time

What will you need to report for each patient undergoing a cardiac surgical procedure with the indications for prophylactic antibiotics for this measure?

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

- Whether or not prophylactic antibiotics were given within 4 hours prior to surgical incision or given intraoperatively

If the patient has been given prophylactic antibiotics within 4 hours prior to surgical incision or intraoperatively, you will then need to report:

- Whether or not there is an order for discontinuation of prophylactic antibiotics (written order, verbal order, or standing order/protocol) within 48 hours of surgical end time²

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

There may be times when it is not appropriate to discontinue prophylactic antibiotics within 48 hours of surgical end time, 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).

¹Refer to coding specifications document for list of applicable procedures and codes.

²There must be documentation of order (written order, verbal order, or standing order/protocol) specifying that prophylactic antibiotic is to be discontinued within 48 hours of surgical end time OR specifying a course of antibiotic administration limited to that 48-hour period (eg, "to be given every 8 hours for three doses" or for "one time" IV dose orders) OR documentation that prophylactic antibiotic was discontinued within 48 hours of surgical end time.