

### Antidepressant Medication During Acute Phase for Patients with MDD

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*This measure is to be reported for **each occurrence** of MDD during the reporting period for all patients aged 18 years and older.*

#### Measure description

Percentage of patients aged 18 years and older diagnosed with new episode of MDD and documented as treated with antidepressant medication during the entire 84-day (12-week) acute treatment phase

#### What will you need to report for each occurrence of MDD for this measure?

If you select this measure for reporting, you will need to determine:

- Whether or not the patient is being seen for a new episode<sup>1</sup> of MDD

If the patient is being seen for a new episode of MDD, you will then need to report:

- Whether or not you prescribed (or the patient completed) an 84-day (12-week) acute treatment of antidepressant medication

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

There may be times when it is not appropriate to complete an 84-day (12-week) acute treatment of antidepressant medication, due to:

- Documented reasons (eg, patient with a new episode of MDD was not an eligible candidate for antidepressant medication treatment)

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

<sup>1</sup>A "new episode" is defined as a patient with major depression who has not been seen or treated for major depression by any practitioner in the prior 4 months. A new episode can either be a recurrence for a patient with prior major depression or a patient with a new onset of major depression.