Pharyngitis

Appropriate Testing for Children with Pharyngitis

Coding Specifications

Codes required to document patient has pharyngitis and a visit occurred:

A line item ICD-9-CM diagnosis code for pharyngitis and a CPT E/M service code are required to identify patients to be included in this measure.

All measure-specific coding should be reported ON THE SAME CLAIM.

Pharyngitis line item ICD-9-CM diagnosis codes

- 034.0 (streptococcal sore throat),
- 462 (acute pharyngitis),
- 463 (acute tonsillitis)

AND

CPT E/M service codes

- 99201, 99202, 99203, 99204, 99205 (office new patient),
- 99212, 99213, 99214, 99215 (office established patient),
- 99217 (hospital observation discharge services),
- 99218, 99219, 99220 (initial observation care),
- 99241, 99242, 99243, 99244, 99245 (outpatient consult)

Quality codes for this measure:

CPT II Code descriptors

(Data collection sheet should be used to determine appropriate code or combination of codes.)

- CPT II 4120F: Antibiotic prescribed or dispensed
- *CPT II 4124F*: Antibiotic neither prescribed nor dispensed
- CPT II 3210F: Group A strep test performed
- *CPT II 3210F-1P*: Documentation of medical reason(s) for not performing group A strep test
- *CPT II 3210F–8P:* Group A strep test not performed, reason not otherwise specified

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