Disorders of the Ear

Referral for Otologic Evaluation for Patients with a History of Active Drainage From the Ear Within the Previous 90 Days

This measure is to be reported for all patients, regardless of age, seen during the reporting period who present with a history of active drainage from the ear within the previous 90 days — a minimum of **once** per reporting period.

Measure description

Percentage of patients aged birth and older who have disease of the ear and mastoid processes referred to a physician (preferably a physician with training in disorders of the ear) for an otologic evaluation subsequent to an audiologic evaluation after presenting with a history of active drainage from the ear within the previous 90 days

What will you need to report for each patient with a history of active drainage from the ear for this measure?

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

■ Whether or not the patient has a history of active drainage from the ear within the ear within 90 days.

If the patient has a history of active drainage, you will then need to report:

■ Whether or not you referred the patient for an otologic evaluation.

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

There may be times when it is not appropriate to refer to a physician, due to:

■ Documented reasons (eg, patients who are already under the care of a physician for active ear drainage.)

In these cases, you will need to indicate that the 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 the valid reasons (also called exclusions).