

Screening for Dysphagia

*This measure is to be reported for all patients aged 18 years and older undergoing active treatment for ischemic stroke or intracranial hemorrhage for **each** hospital stay during the reporting period.*

Measure description

Percentage of patients aged 18 years and older with a diagnosis of ischemic stroke or intracranial hemorrhage who underwent a dysphagia screening¹ process before taking any foods, fluids or medication by mouth

What will you need to report for each hospital stay for patients under active treatment for ischemic stroke or intracranial hemorrhage for this measure?

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

- Whether or not the patient is receiving or eligible to receive food, fluids, or medication by mouth²

If the patient is receiving or eligible to receive food, fluids, or medication by mouth, you will then need to report:

- Whether or not you conducted dysphagia screening prior to order for or receipt of any foods, fluids or medication by mouth

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

There may be times when it is not appropriate to conduct dysphagia screening prior to the order for or the patient's receipt of any foods, fluids or medication by mouth, 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).

¹Dysphagia screening: use of a tested and validated dysphagia screening tool (eg, Burke dysphagia screening test, 3 oz. water swallow test, Mann assessment of swallowing ability [MASA], standardized bedside swallowing assessment [SSA]) OR a dysphagia screening tool approved by the hospital's speech/language pathology (SLP) services.

²For purposes of this measure, patients "who receive any food, fluids or medication by mouth" may be identified by the absence of an NPO (nothing by mouth) order.