

## Asthma Pharmacologic Therapy (NQF 0047)

<b>EMeasure Name</b>	Asthma Pharmacologic Therapy	<b>EMeasure Id</b>	Pending
<b>Version Number</b>	1	<b>Set Id</b>	Pending
<b>Available Date</b>	No information	<b>Measurement Period</b>	January 1, 20xx through December 31, 20xx
<b>Measure Steward</b>	American Medical Association – Physician Consortium for Performance Improvement		
<b>Endorsed by</b>	National Quality Forum		
<b>Description</b>	Percentage of patients aged 5 through 40 years with a diagnosis of mild, moderate, or severe persistent asthma who were prescribed either the preferred long-term control medication (inhaled corticosteroid) or an acceptable alternative treatment.		
<b>Measure scoring</b>	Proportion		
<b>Measure type</b>	Process		
<b>Rationale</b>	Although current guidelines recommend inhaled corticosteroids as the preferred pharmacological treatment for persistent asthma, other long-term control medications are acceptable alternatives. Long Acting-inhaled Beta2 Agonists (LABA) are recommended in combination with Inhaled Corticosteroids.		
<b>Clinical Recommendation Statement</b>	<p>A stepwise approach to therapy is recommended to maintain long-term control:</p> <p>Step 1: Mild Intermittent Asthma</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No daily medication needed</li> </ul> <p>Step 2: Mild Persistent Asthma</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Preferred treatment: Low-dose inhaled corticosteroids (ICS)</li> <li>• Alternative treatment: Cromolyn, leukotriene modifier, nedocromil, OR sustained-release theophylline</li> </ul> <p>Step 3: Moderate Persistent Asthma</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Preferred treatment: Low-medium dose ICS + long-acting inhaled beta2-agonists (LABA)</li> <li>• Alternative treatment: Increase medium-dose ICS OR low-medium dose ICS and either leukotriene modifier or theophylline (If needed, may increase ICS within medium-dose range in either treatment)</li> </ul> <p>Step 4: Severe Persistent Asthma</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Preferred treatment: High-dose ICS + LABA AND, if needed, corticosteroid tablets or syrup long-term</li> </ul> <p>Studies comparing ICS to cromolyn, nedocromil, theophylline, or leukotriene receptor antagonists are limited, but available evidence shows that none of these long-term control medications appear to be as effective as ICS in improving asthma outcomes.</p> <p>For quick relief for all patients, a short-acting bronchodilator is recommended as needed for symptoms. (NAEPP/NHLBI)</p>		
<b>References</b>			
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*Please refer to the spreadsheet for this measure for detail regarding data criteria and code lists.*

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### **Population criteria**

- **Initial Patient Population =**
  - AND: "Patient characteristic: birth date" (age)  $\geq$  5 years;
  - AND: "Patient characteristic: birth date" (age)  $\leq$  40 years;
  - AND:
    - OR: "Diagnosis active: asthma", severity = "persistent";
    - OR: "Diagnosis active: asthma persistent";
  - AND:  $\geq$ 2 count(s) of "Encounter: encounter office & outpatient consult";
- **Denominator =**
  - AND: All patients in the initial patient population;
- **Numerator =**
  - AND:
    - OR: "Medication order: corticosteroid, inhaled or alternative asthma medication";
    - OR: "Medication active: corticosteroid, inhaled, or alternative asthma medication";
- **Exclusions =**
  - AND: "Medication not done: patient reason";
  - AND:
    - OR: "Medication allergy: corticosteroid, inhaled, or alternative asthma medication";
    - OR: "Medication adverse event: corticosteroid, inhaled, or alternative asthma medication";
    - OR: "Medication intolerance: corticosteroid, inhaled, or alternative asthma medication";

## **Data criteria (QDS Data Elements)**

- **Initial Patient Population =**
  - "Patient characteristic: birth date" using the "birth date code list" before the beginning of the measurement period;
  - "Diagnosis active: asthma" using the "asthma code list" before or simultaneously to the "measurement period";
  - "Diagnosis active: asthma persistent" using the "asthma persistent code list grouping" before or simultaneously to the "measurement period";
  - "Encounter: encounter office & outpatient consult" using the "encounter outpatient office & outpatient consult code list" during the "measurement period";
- **Denominator =**
  - All patients in the initial patient population;
- **Numerator =**
  - "Medication order: corticosteroid, inhaled, or alternative asthma medication" using the "corticosteroid, inhaled, or alternative asthma medication code list" during the "measurement period";
  - "Medication active: corticosteroid, inhaled, or alternative asthma medication" using the "corticosteroid, inhaled, or alternative asthma medication code list" during the "measurement period";
- **Exclusions =**
  - "Medication not done: patient reason" using the "patient reason code list grouping" for "Medication active: corticosteroid, inhaled, or alternative asthma medication" OR "Medication order: corticosteroid, inhaled, or alternative asthma medication";
  - "Medication allergy: corticosteroid, inhaled, or alternative asthma medication" using the "corticosteroid, inhaled, or alternative asthma medication code list" before or simultaneously to "Encounter: encounter office & outpatient consult";
  - "Medication adverse event: corticosteroid, inhaled, or alternative asthma medication" using the "corticosteroid, inhaled, or alternative asthma medication code list" before or simultaneously to "Encounter: encounter office & outpatient consult";
  - "Medication intolerance: corticosteroid, inhaled, or alternative asthma medication" using the "corticosteroid, inhaled, or alternative asthma medication code list" before or simultaneously to "Encounter: encounter office & outpatient consult";

## **Summary Calculation**

Calculation is generic to all measures:

- Calculate the final denominator by adding all that meet denominator criteria.
- Subtract from the final denominator all that do not meet numerator criteria yet also meet exclusion criteria. Note some measures do not have exclusion criteria.

- The performance calculation is the number meeting numerator criteria divided by the final denominator.
  - For measures with multiple patient populations, repeat this process for each patient population and report each result separately.
  - For measures with multiple numerators, calculate each numerator separately within each population using the paired exclusion.
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Measure set	CLINICAL QUALITY MEASURE SET 2011-2012
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