

Please Note: Related measure (#0710) Depression Remission at 12 months was accepted by CMS for inclusion into MU2 (CMS159v3). These e-specifications could be easily copied and modified for a six month time frame for (#0711) Depression Remission at Six Months.

eMeasure Title	Depression Remission at Twelve Months			This measure has been through annual testing for feasibility against the CMS test deck; last successful test in April 2014
eMeasure Identifier (Measure Authoring Tool)	159	eMeasure Version number	3	
NQF Number	0710	GUID	8455cd3e-dbb9-4e0c-8084-3ece4068fe94	
Measurement Period	January 1, 20xx through December 31, 20xx			
Measure Steward	MN Community Measurement			
Measure Developer	MN Community Measurement			
Endorsed By	National Quality Forum			
Description	Adult patients age 18 and older with major depression or dysthymia and an initial PHQ-9 score > 9 who demonstrate remission at twelve months defined as PHQ-9 score less than 5. This measure applies to both patients with newly diagnosed and existing depression whose current PHQ-9 score indicates a need for treatment			
Copyright	Copyright MN Community Measurement, 2014. All rights reserved.			
Disclaimer	This measure is “re-tooled” from the existing NQF # 710 measure. eMeasure development was a collaboration between MN Community Measurement and Telligen with technical assistance provided by Telligen.			
Measure Scoring	Proportion			
Measure Type	Outcome			
Stratification	None			
Risk Adjustment	None			
Rate Aggregation	None			
Rationale	The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention states that nationally 15.7% of people report being told by a health care professional that they had depression at some point in their lifetime. Persons with a current diagnosis of depression and a lifetime diagnosis of depression or anxiety were significantly more likely than persons without these conditions to have cardiovascular disease, diabetes, asthma and obesity and to be a current smoker, to be physically inactive and to drink heavily. According to National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH), 6.7 percent of the U.S. population ages 18 and older (14.8 million people) in any given year have a diagnosis of a major depressive disorder. Major depression is the leading cause of disability in the U.S. for ages 15 - 44. Additionally, dysthymia accounts for an additional 3.3 million Americans.			
Clinical Recommendation Statement	Improvement in the symptoms of depression and an ongoing assessment of the current treatment plan is crucial to the reduction of symptoms and psychosocial well being of patients with major depression. Most people treated for initial depression need to be on medication at least six to twelve months after adequate response to symptoms, patients with recurrent depression need to be treated for three years or more and response with psychotherapy can take eight to twelve weeks of regular and frequent therapy to show improvement. Remission is defined as a PHQ-9 score of less than five at twelve months. The Patient Health Questionnaire (PHQ-9) tool is a widely accepted, standardized tool [Developed by Drs. Robert L. Spitzer, Janet B.W. Williams, Kurt Kroenke and colleagues, with an educational grant from Pfizer Inc. No permission required to reproduce, translate, display or distribute.] that is completed by the patient, ideally at each visit, and utilized by the provider to monitor treatment progress. This tool was selected for measuring outcomes for this population because it			

	<p>is 1) validated with a sensitivity of .080 and a specificity of 0.92 with substantial heterogeneity I² = 82%, 2) widely accepted and utilized in Minnesota, 3) available for clinical use, 4) translated into many languages and 5) easy for the patient to complete and the provider to score. Available at www.phqscreeners.com. This nine question tool contains the following questions which are scored on a scale of 0 to 27 based on the scale of Not at All (0), Several Days (1), More Than Half the Days (2), or Nearly Every Day (3) for responses to the questions over the last 2 weeks.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Little interest or pleasure in doing things • Feeling down, depressed, or hopeless • Feeling tired or having little energy • Poor appetite or overeating • Feeling bad about yourself - or that you are a failure or have let yourself or your family down • Trouble concentrating on things, such as reading the newspaper or watching television • Moving or speaking so slowly that other people could have noticed? Or the opposite - being so fidgety or restless that you have been moving around a lot more than usual • Thoughts that you would be better off dead or of hurting yourself in some way
Improvement Notation	Higher score indicates better quality
Reference	Institute for Clinical Systems Improvement (ICSI) Major Depression in Adults in Primary Care 15th edition May 2012 www.icsi.org
Reference	www.nimh.nih.gov/health/publications/the-numbers-count-mental-disorders-in-america
Reference	National Institute of Mental Health: The Numbers Count: Mental Disorders in America August 2009
Reference	Screening for Depression in Medical Settings with the Patient Health Questionnaire (PHQ) A Diagnostic Meta Analysis. Gilbody, Simon et al Journal of General Internal Medicine Sept 2007
Reference	The PHQ-9: Validity of a Brief Depression Severity Measure Kurt Kroenke, MD, Robert Spitzer, MD J Gen Intern Med 2001 16:606-613
Definition	<p>Remission is defined as a PHQ-9 score of less than five</p> <p>Twelve Months is defined as the point in time from the date in the measurement period that a patient meets the inclusion criteria (diagnosis and elevated PHQ-9 > 9) extending out twelve months and then allowing a grace period of thirty days prior to and thirty days after this date. Any PHQ-9 less than five obtained during this period is deemed as remission at twelve months, values obtained prior to or after this period are not counted as numerator compliant (remission)</p>
Guidance	None
Transmission Format	TBD
Initial Patient Population	Adults age 18 and older with a diagnosis of major depression or dysthymia and an initial PHQ-9 score greater than nine during an outpatient encounter.
Denominator	Equals the Initial Patient Population
Denominator Exclusions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1: Patients who died 2: Patients who received hospice services 3: Patients who were permanent nursing home residents 4: Patients with a diagnosis of bipolar disorder 5: Patients with a diagnosis of personality disorder
Numerator	Adults who achieved remission at twelve months as demonstrated by a twelve month

	(+/- 30 days) PHQ-9 score of less than five.
Numerator Exclusions	None
Denominator Exceptions	None
Measure Population	Not Applicable
Measure Observations	Not Applicable
Supplemental Data Elements	For every patient evaluated by this measure also identify payer, race, ethnicity and sex.

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- **Initial Patient Population =**
 - AND: "Patient Characteristic Birthdate: birth date" >= 18 year(s) starts before start of "Measurement Period"
 - AND:
 - OR:
 - AND: "Occurrence A of Risk Category Assessment: PHQ-9 Tool (result > 9)" during "Occurrence A of Encounter, Performed: Office Visit"
 - AND:
 - OR: "Occurrence A of Encounter, Performed: Office Visit" < 13 month(s) starts before start of "Measurement Period"
 - OR: "Occurrence A of Encounter, Performed: Office Visit" < 1 month(s) ends after start of "Measurement Period"
 - AND:
 - OR:
 - AND NOT: "Occurrence A of Diagnosis, Active: Major Depression Including Remission" ends before start of "Occurrence A of Encounter, Performed: Office Visit"
 - AND: "Occurrence A of Diagnosis, Active: Major Depression Including Remission" starts before or during "Occurrence A of Encounter, Performed: Office Visit"
 - OR:
 - AND NOT: "Occurrence A of Diagnosis, Active: Dysthymia" ends before start of "Occurrence A of Encounter, Performed: Office Visit"
 - AND: "Occurrence A of Diagnosis, Active: Dysthymia" starts before or during "Occurrence A of Encounter, Performed: Office Visit"
 - OR:
 - AND: "Occurrence B of Risk Category Assessment: PHQ-9 Tool (result > 9)" during "Occurrence A of Encounter, Performed: Psych Visit"

- AND: "Occurrence A of Encounter, Performed: Psych Visit" < 13 month(s) starts before start of "Measurement Period"
 - AND: "Occurrence A of Encounter, Performed: Psych Visit" < 1 month(s) ends after start of "Measurement Period"
 - AND:
 - OR:
 - AND NOT: "Occurrence A of Diagnosis, Active: Major Depression Including Remission (ordinality: 'principal')" ends before start of "Occurrence A of Encounter, Performed: Psych Visit"
 - AND: "Occurrence A of Diagnosis, Active: Major Depression Including Remission (ordinality: 'principal')" starts before or during "Occurrence A of Encounter, Performed: Psych Visit"
 - OR:
 - AND NOT: "Occurrence A of Diagnosis, Active: Dysthymia (ordinality: 'principal')" ends before start of "Occurrence A of Encounter, Performed: Psych Visit"
 - AND: "Occurrence A of Diagnosis, Active: Dysthymia (ordinality: 'principal')" starts before or during "Occurrence A of Encounter, Performed: Psych Visit"
 - OR:
 - AND: "Occurrence C of Risk Category Assessment: PHQ-9 Tool (result > 9)" during "Occurrence A of Encounter, Performed: Face to Face Interaction – No ED"
 - AND: "Occurrence A of Encounter, Performed: Face to Face Interaction – No ED" < 13 month(s) starts before start of "Measurement Period"
 - AND: "Occurrence A of Encounter, Performed: Face to Face Interaction – No ED" < 1 month(s) ends after start of "Measurement Period"
 - AND:
 - OR:
 - AND NOT: "Occurrence A of Diagnosis, Active: Major Depression Including Remission" ends before start of "Occurrence A of Encounter, Performed: Face to Face Interaction – No ED"
 - AND: "Occurrence A of Diagnosis, Active: Major Depression Including Remission" starts before or during "Occurrence A of Encounter, Performed Face to Face Interaction – No ED"
 - OR:
 - AND NOT: "Occurrence A of Diagnosis, Active: Dysthymia" ends before start of "Occurrence A of Encounter, Performed: Face to Face Interaction – No ED"
 - AND: "Occurrence A of Diagnosis, Active: Dysthymia" starts before or during "Occurrence A of Encounter, Performed: Face to Face Interaction – No ED"
- **Denominator =**
 - AND: "Initial Patient Population"
 - **Denominator Exclusions =**
 - AND:
 - OR: "Patient Characteristic Expired: Deceased"
 - OR: "Intervention, Order: Palliative Care"
 - OR: "Diagnosis, Active: Bipolar Disorder"
 - OR: "Diagnosis, Active: Personality Disorder"
 - OR: "Encounter, Performed: Care Services in Long-Term Residential Facility"
 - <= 1 year(s) starts before or during "Measurement Period"
 - **Numerator =**
 - AND: "Occurrence D of Risk Category Assessment: PHQ-9 Tool (result < 5)" < 13 month(s) starts after end of FIRST :
 - OR: "Occurrence A of Risk Category Assessment: PHQ-9 Tool"
 - OR: "Occurrence B of Risk Category Assessment: PHQ-9 Tool"

- OR: "Occurrence C of Risk Category Assessment: PHQ-9 Tool"
 -
 - AND: "Occurrence C of Risk Category Assessment: PHQ-9 Tool (result < 5)" > 10 month(s) starts after end of FIRST :
 - OR: "Occurrence A of Risk Category Assessment: PHQ-9 Tool"
 - OR: "Occurrence B of Risk Category Assessment: PHQ-9 Tool"
 - OR: "Occurrence C of Risk Category Assessment: PHQ-9 Tool"
 -
- **Denominator Exceptions =**
 - None

Data criteria (QDM Data Elements)

- "Diagnosis, Active: Bipolar Disorder" using "Bipolar Disorder Grouping Value Set (2.16.840.1.113883.3.67.1.101.1.128)"
- "Diagnosis, Active: Dysthymia" using "Dysthymia Grouping Value Set (2.16.840.1.113883.3.67.1.101.1.254)"
- "Diagnosis, Active: Major Depression Including Remission" using "Major Depression Including Remission Grouping Value Set (2.16.840.113883.3.67.1.101.3.2444)"
- "Diagnosis, Active: Personality Disorder" using "Personality Disorder Grouping Value Set (2.16.840.1.113883.3.67.1.101.1.246)"
- "Encounter, Performed: Care Services in Long-Term Residential Facility" using "Care Services in Long-Term Residential Facility Grouping Value Set (2.16.840.1.113883.3.464.1003.101.12.1014)"
- "Encounter, Performed: Face to Face Interaction – No ED" using "Face to Face Interaction – No ED Grouping Value Set (2.16.840.1.113762.1.4.1080.2)"
- "Encounter, Performed: Office Visit" using "Office Visit Grouping Value Set (2.16.840.1.113883.3.464.1003.101.12.1001)"
- "Encounter, Performed: Psych Visit" using "Psych Visit Grouping Value Set (2.16.840.113883.3.67.1.101.3.2445)"
- "Intervention, Order: Palliative Care" using "Palliative Care Grouping Value Set (2.16.840.1.113883.3.526.3.1024)"
- "Patient Characteristic Birthdate: birth date" using "birth date LOINC Value Set (2.16.840.1.113883.3.560.100.4)"
- "Patient Characteristic Expired: Deceased" using "Deceased Grouping Value Set (2.16.840.1.113883.3.67.1.101.11.721)"
- "Risk Category Assessment: PHQ-9 Tool" using "PHQ-9 Tool Grouping Value Set (2.16.840.1.113883.3.67.1.101.11.723)"
- Attribute: "Ordinality: Principal" using "Principal Grouping Value Set (2.16.840.1.113883.3.117.1.7.1.14)"

Reporting Stratification

- None

Supplemental Data Elements

- "Patient Characteristic Ethnicity: Ethnicity" using "Ethnicity CDC Value Set (2.16.840.1.114222.4.11.837)"
- "Patient Characteristic Payer: Payer" using "Payer Source of Payment Typology Value Set (2.16.840.1.114222.4.11.3591)"
- "Patient Characteristic Race: Race" using "Race CDC Value Set (2.16.840.1.114222.4.11.836)"
- "Patient Characteristic Sex: ONC Administrative Sex" using "ONC Administrative Sex Administrative Sex Value Set (2.16.840.1.113762.1.4.1)"

Measure Set	None
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