# NATIONAL QUALITY FORUM 

Measure Evaluation 4.1<br>January 2010

This form contains the measure information submitted by stewards. Blank fields indicate no information was provided. Attachments also may have been submitted and are provided to reviewers. The sub-criteria and most of the footnotes from the evaluation criteria are provided in Word comments and will appear if your cursor is over the highlighted area (or in the margin if your Word program is set to show revisions in balloons). Hyperlinks to the evaluation criteria and ratings are provided in each section.

TAP/Workgroup (if utilized): Complete all yellow highlighted areas of the form. Evaluate the extent to which each sub-criterion is met. Based on your evaluation, summarize the strengths and weaknesses in each section.

Note: If there is no TAP or workgroup, the SC also evaluates the sub-criteria (yellow highlighted areas).
Steering Committee: Complete all pink highlighted areas of the form. Review the workgroup/TAP assessment of the sub-criterion, noting any areas of disagreement; then evaluate the extent to which each major criterion is met; and finally, indicate your recommendation for the endorsement. Provide the rationale for your ratings.

## Evaluation ratings of the extent to which the criteria are met

$\mathrm{C}=$ Completely (unquestionably demonstrated to meet the criterion)
P = Partially (demonstrated to partially meet the criterion)
$M=$ Minimally (addressed BUT demonstrated to only minimally meet the criterion)
$\mathrm{N}=$ Not at all (NOT addressed; OR incorrectly addressed; OR demonstrated to NOT meet the criterion) NA = Not applicable (only an option for a few sub-criteria as indicated)

## (for NQF staff use) NQF Review \#: PSM-029-10 NQF Project: Patient Safety Measures

## MEASURE DESCRIPTIVE INFORMATION

De. 1 Measure Title: Adult patient(s) taking warfarin that had three or more prothrombin time tests in last 6 reported months.

De. 2 Brief description of measure: This measure identifies adults, 18 years of age or older, taking warfarin that had three or more prothrombin time tests in last 6 months of the report period.
1.1-2 Type of Measure: process

De. 3 If included in a composite or paired with another measure, please identify composite or paired measure Does not apply

De. 4 National Priority Partners Priority Area: safety
De. 5 IOM Quality Domain: safety
De. 6 Consumer Care Need: Staying Healthy

## CONDITIONS FOR CONSIDERATION BY NQF

Four conditions must be met before proposed measures may be considered and evaluated for suitability as
A. The measure is in the public domain or an intellectual property (measure steward agreement) is signed.
Public domain only applies to governmental organizations. All non-government organizations must sign a measure steward agreement even if measures are made publicly and freely available.
A. 1 Do you attest that the measure steward holds intellectual property rights to the measure and the right to use aspects of the measure owned by another entity (e.g., risk model, code set)? Yes
A. 2 Indicate if Proprietary Measure (as defined in measure steward agreement): proprietary measure
A. 3 Measure Steward Agreement: agreement signed and submitted
A. 4 Measure Steward Agreement attached: Measure Steward Addendum_Ingenix 012010-
B. The measure owner/steward verifies there is an identified responsible entity and process to maintain and update the measure on a schedule that is commensurate with the rate of clinical innovation, but at least every 3 years. Yes, information provided in contact section
C. The intended use of the measure includes both public reporting and quality improvement.

- Purpose: public reporting, quality improvement Payment Incentive, Accountability
D. The requested measure submission information is complete. Generally, measures should be fully developed and tested so that all the evaluation criteria have been addressed and information needed to evaluate the measure is provided. Measures that have not been tested are only potentially eligible for a time-limited endorsement and in that case, measure owners must verify that testing will be completed within 12 months of endorsement.
D. 1 Testing: Yes, fully developed and tested
D. 2 Have NQF-endorsed measures been reviewed to identify if there are similar or related measures? Yes
(for NQF staff use) Have all conditions for consideration been met? Met

Staff Notes to Steward (if submission returned):

Staff Notes to Reviewers (issues or questions regarding any criteria):
Staff Reviewer Name(s):

## TAP/Workgroup Reviewer Name:

## Steering Committee Reviewer Name:

## 1. IMPORTANCE TO MEASURE AND REPORT

Extent to which the specific measure focus is important to making significant gains in health care quality (safety, timeliness, effectiveness, efficiency, equity, patient-centeredness) and improving health outcomes for a specific high impact aspect of healthcare where there is variation in or overall poor performance. Measures must be judged to be important to measure and report in order to be evaluated against the remaining criteria. (evaluation criteria)
1a. High Impact

## (for NQF staff use) Specific NPP goal:

1a. 1 Demonstrated High Impact Aspect of Healthcare: affects large numbers, patient/societal consequences of poor quality
1 a .2
1a. 3 Summary of Evidence of High Impact: The prevalence of warfarin use is extremely high. In our benchmark database of nearly 15 million members, we identified more than 20,000 individuals who were warfarin users (1). When patients are taking warfarin, the importance of strict INR control has been demonstrated. Improved anticoagulation control can significantly decrease the likelihood of anticoagulation-associated adverse events $(2,3)$.

A meta-analysis of 45 studies demonstrated that improved anticoagulation control can decrease the likelihood of approximately one-half of all anticoagulation-associated adverse events (2). In this study, 44 percent of hemorrhagic events occurred when the INR was above the therapeutic range and 48 percent of thromboembolic events occurred when the INR was below the therapeutic range.

A retrospective cohort study evaluated anticoagulant-associated hemorrhagic and thromboembolic events in 10,020 individuals 65 years of age or older(3). In this study, excessively high anticoagulation explained 26 percent of all serious bleeding events and excessively high anticoagulation explained 11 percent of all thromboembolic events.

1a.4 Citations for Evidence of High Impact: 1. Ingenix EBM Connect benchmark results, September 2009 2. Oake N,Fergusson DA,Forster AJ,van Walraven C. Frequency of adverse events in patients with poor anticoagulation: a meta-analysis. CMAJ 2007;176(11):1589-94.
3. van Walraven C,Oake N,Wells PS,Forster AJ. Burden of potentially avoidable anticoagulant-associated hemorrhagic and thromboembolic events in the elderly. Chest 2007;131(5):1508-15.

## 1b. Opportunity for Improvement

1b. 1 Benefits (improvements in quality) envisioned by use of this measure: This measure will reduce serious adverse events (e.g., bleeding, thromboembolic complications) secondary to absence of recommended warfarin monitoring. Strict INR control has been associated with a decrease in anticoagulation-associated adverse events.

1b. 2 Summary of data demonstrating performance gap (variation or overall poor performance) across providers:
Using a geographically diverse 15 million member benchmark database (this database represents predominately a commercial population less than 65 year of age) the compliance rate was 66.3 percent, indicating a clear gap in care and opportunity for care improvement.

1b. 3 Citations for data on performance gap:
Ingenix EBM Connect benchmark results, September 2009
1b. 4 Summary of Data on disparities by population group:
None
1b. 5 Citations for data on Disparities:

## 1c. Outcome or Evidence to Support Measure Focus

1c. 1 Relationship to Outcomes (For non-outcome measures, briefly describe the relationship to desired outcome. For outcomes, describe why it is relevant to the target population): This measure will reduce serious adverse events secondary to absence of recommended warfarin monitoring.

1c.2-3. Type of Evidence: evidence based guideline, meta-analysis, cohort study
1c. 4 Summary of Evidence (as described in the criteria; for outcomes, summarize any evidence that healthcare services/care processes influence the outcome):
The international normalization ratio (INR) should be determined at least weekly during the initiation of warfarin therapy and monthly when the patient is stable; this monitoring is essential to guide warfarin dose adjustment to maintain anticoagulation intensity in the desired target range. (1). This is a Class I* recommendation from the ACC/AHA/ESC Guidelines for the Management of Patients with Atrial Fibrillation (1). For this measure, it is assumed that all patients receiving warfarin therapy are taking maintenance therapy since it is otherwise difficult to identify the exact start date of warfarin therapy.

A meta-analysis of 45 studies demonstrated that improved anticoagulation control can decrease the likelihood of approximately one-half of all anticoagulation-associated adverse events (1). In this study, 44 percent of hemorrhagic events occurred when the INR was above the therapeutic range and 48 percent of thromboembolic events occurred when the INR was below the therapeutic range.

A retrospective cohort study evaluated anticoagulant-associated hemorrhagic and thromboembolic events in 10,020 individuals 65 years of age or older(2). In this study, excessively high anticoagulation explained 26 percent of all serious bleeding events and excessively high anticoagulation explained 11 percent of all thromboembolic events.

1c. 5 Rating of strength/quality of evidence (also provide narrative description of the rating and by whom):
see 1c. 12 and 1c. 13

1c. 6 Method for rating evidence: see 1c. 13
1c. 7 Summary of Controversy/Contradictory Evidence: There it no controversary about this recommendation.

1c. 8 Citations for Evidence (other than guidelines): 2. Oake N,Fergusson DA,Forster AJ, van Walraven C. Frequency of adverse events in patients with poor anticoagulation: a meta-analysis. CMAJ 2007;176(11):1589-94.
3. van Walraven C,Oake N,Wells PS,Forster AJ. Burden of potentially avoidable anticoagulant-associated hemorrhagic and thromboembolic events in the elderly. Chest 2007;131(5):1508-15.

1c. 9 Quote the Specific guideline recommendation (including guideline number and/or page number): The international normalization ratio (INR) should be determined at least weekly during the initiation of warfarin therapy and monthly when the patient is stable. This is in the ACC/AHA/ESC 2006 guidelines, page e179.

1c. 10 Clinical Practice Guideline Citation: 1. Fuster V, Rydén LE, Asinger RW, et. al. ACC/AHA/ESC 2006 guidelines for the management of patients with atrial fibrillation - executive summary: a report of the American College of Cardiology/American Heart Association Task Force and the European Society of Cardiology Committee for Practice Guidelines (Writing Committee to Revise the 2001 Guidelines for the Management of Patients With Atrial Fibrillation). J Am Coll Cardiol 2006;48:854-906.
1c. 11 National Guideline Clearinghouse or other URL:
http://www.acc.org/qualityandscience/clinical/guidelines/atrial_fib/pdfs/af_full_text.pdf
1c. 12 Rating of strength of recommendation (also provide narrative description of the rating and by whom):
Class I (Conditions for which there is evidence and/or general agreement that a given procedure/therapy is beneficial, useful, and effective) recommendation from the ACC/AHA/ESC Guidelines for the Management of Patients with Atrial Fibrillation.

1c. 13 Method for rating strength of recommendation (If different from USPSTF system, also describe rating and how it relates to USPSTF):
The ACC/AHA/ESC strength of recommendation format consists of three main classes, I-III.
Recommendations are evidence based and derived primarily from published data. This Class I recommendation would be equivalent to the USPSTF grade A or B classification.

1c. 14 Rationale for using this guideline over others:
This is the only guideline that specifically addresses frequency of warfarin monitoring.
TAP/Workgroup: What are the strengths and weaknesses in relation to the sub-criteria for Importance to Measure and Report?

Steering Committee: Was the threshold criterion, Importance to Measure and Report, met? Rationale:

## 2. SCIENTIFIC ACCEPTABILITY OF MEASURE PROPERTIES

Extent to which the measure, as specified, produces consistent (reliable) and credible (valid) results about the quality of care when implemented. (evaluation criteria)

## 2a. MEASURE SPECIFICATIONS

S. 1 Do you have a web page where current detailed measure specifications can be obtained? S. 2 If yes, provide web page URL:

2a. 1 Numerator Statement (Brief, text description of the numerator - what is being measured about the target population, e.g. target condition, event, or outcome):
Patients who are being treated with warfarin, who have periodic prothrombin time tests during the following time period: last 180 days prior to the end of the report period through 90 days after the end of the report period

2a. 2 Numerator Time Window (The time period in which cases are eligible for inclusion in the numerator):
Last 180 days prior to the end of the report period through 90 days after the end of the report period

2a. 3 Numerator Details (All information required to collect/calculate the numerator, including all codes, logic, and definitions):
Patients who have had three or more tests for prothrombin time (code sets PR0070, LC0055) during the following time period: 180 days prior to the end of the report period through 90 days after the end of the report period?

Code Set Code Set Description Procedure Code
PR0070 Prothrombin time (pro-time) 85610
PR0070 Prothrombin time (pro-time) 85611
Code Set Code Set Description LOINC Code
LC0055 Prothrombin time 34714-6
LC0055 Prothrombin time 38875-1
LC0055 Prothrombin time 46418-0
LC0055 Prothrombin time 5894-1
LC0055 Prothrombin time 5901-4
LC0055 Prothrombin time 5902-2
LC0055 Prothrombin time 5964-2
LC0055 Prothrombin time 6301-6
LC0055 Prothrombin time 6302-4

2a. 4 Denominator Statement (Brief, text description of the denominator - target population being measured):
All patients 18 years of age and older who are being actively treated with warfarin
2a. 5 Target population gender: Female, Male
2a. 6 Target population age range: Patients who are 18 years of age or older at the end of the report period

2a. 7 Denominator Time Window (The time period in which cases are eligible for inclusion in the denominator):
Last 120 days prior to the end of the report period
2a. 8 Denominator Details (All information required to collect/calculate the denominator - the target population being measured - including all codes, logic, and definitions):
Criteria for inclusion in the denominator include:

1. Patient must have continuous enrollment in both a medical benefits plan and a pharmacy benefits plan throughout the 12 months prior to the end of the report period where there is no more than one break in continuous enrollment of up to 45 days and no breaks greater than 45 days.
2. Patient must be 18 years of age or older at the end of the report period.
3. Patient must have filled a prescription for warfarin (code set $R X-127$ ) during the 120 days prior to the end of the report period where the duration of medication taken was $>90$ days (duration calculated during the 12 month report period)

Rx code set Rx code set description ndc
RX-127 Warfarin 00034542080
RX-127 Warfarin 00056016801

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| RX-127 | Warfarin | 00056016890 |
| RX-127 | Warfarin | 00056016901 |
| RX-127 | Warfarin | 00056016970 |
| RX-127 | Warfarin | 00056016975 |
| RX-127 | Warfarin | 00056016990 |
| RX-127 | Warfarin | 00056017001 |
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| RX-127 | Warfarin | 68382006401 |
| RX-127 | Warfarin | 68382006410 |
| 2a.9 Denominator Exclusions (Brief text description had a confinement/admission to an acute or non-acu <br> 2a. 10 Denominator Exclusion Details (All information including all codes, logic, and definitions): <br> Patient had one of the following during the 12 month <br> -Facility Event - Confinement/Admission (i.e., hospit <br> -Non-acute care procedure code(HEDIS code set PR0187 <br> -Non-acute care revenue code (HEDIS code set RV0187) <br> -Non-acute care place of service code (code set PSOO <br> Code Set Code Set Description Procedure Code <br> PR0187 Nonacute care (HEDIS) H0017 <br> PR0187 Nonacute care (HEDIS) H0018 <br> PR0187 Nonacute care (HEDIS) H0019 <br> PR0187 Nonacute care (HEDIS) T2048 |  |  |
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| RV0187 | Nonacute care (HEDIS) | 0125 |
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| RV0187 | Nonacute care (HEDIS) | 0128 |
| RV0187 | Nonacute care (HEDIS) | 0135 |
| RV0187 | Nonacute care (HEDIS) | 0138 |
| RV0187 | Nonacute care (HEDIS) | 0145 |
| RV0187 | Nonacute care (HEDIS) | 0148 |
| RV0187 | Nonacute care (HEDIS) | 0155 |
| RV0187 | Nonacute care (HEDIS) | 0158 |
| RV0187 | Nonacute care (HEDIS) | 0190 |
| RV0187 | Nonacute care (HEDIS) | 0191 |
| RV0187 | Nonacute care (HEDIS) | 0192 |
| RV0187 | Nonacute care (HEDIS) | 0193 |
| RV0187 | Nonacute care (HEDIS) | 0194 |
| RV0187 | Nonacute care (HEDIS) | 0199 |
| RV0187 | Nonacute care (HEDIS) | 0650 |
| RV0187 | Nonacute care (HEDIS) | 0655 |
| RV0187 | Nonacute care (HEDIS) | 0656 |
| RV0187 | Nonacute care (HEDIS) | 0658 |
| RV0187 | Nonacute care (HEDIS) | 0659 |
| RV0187 | Nonacute care (HEDIS) | 1001 |
| RV0187 | Nonacute care (HEDIS) | 1002 |
|  |  |  |
| Code Set | C. Set Description | POS Code |
| PS0005 | Nonacute Care (HEDIS) | 31 |
| PS0005 | Nonacute Care (HEDIS) |  |
| PS0005 | Nonacute Care (HEDIS) |  |
| PS0005 | Nonacute Care (HEDIS) | 54 |
| PS0005 | Nonacute Care (HEDIS) | 55 |
| PS0005 | Nonacute Care (HEDIS) | 56 |
| PS0005 | Nonacute Care (HEDIS) | 61 |

2a. 11 Stratification Details/Variables (All information required to stratify the measure including the stratification variables, all codes, logic, and definitions):
Does not apply
2a.12-13 Risk Adjustment Type: no risk adjustment necessary
2a. 14 Risk Adjustment Methodology/Variables (List risk adjustment variables and describe conceptual models, statistical models, or other aspects of model or method):

## 2a.15-17 Detailed risk model available Web page URL or attachment:

## 2a.18-19 Type of Score: rate/proportion

2a. 20 Interpretation of Score: better quality = higher score
2a.21 Calculation Algorithm (Describe the calculation of the measure as a flowchart or series of steps):

1. Exclude members who meet denominator exclusion criteria
2. Assign a YES or NO result to remaining members based on numerator response
3. Rate $=\mathrm{YES} /[\mathrm{YES}+\mathrm{NO}]$

## 2a. 22 Describe the method for discriminating performance (e.g., significance testing):

Over 20,000 patients met the denominator from a geographically diverse 15 million member benchmark database. Over 6,000 patients did not meet numerator compliance, indicating a significant population with patient safety gap in care. The subsequent compliance rate was 66.3 percent.
2a. 23 Sampling (Survey) Methodology If measure is based on a sample (or survey), provide instructions for obtaining the sample, conducting the survey and guidance on minimum sample size (response rate):
A 15 million patient population sample was chosen to analyze the potential patient safety gap in care. The sample was derived from more than 60 million patients based on criteria including national geographic representation, commercial health coverage and patient age less than 65.

2a.24 Data Source (Check the source(s) for which the measure is specified and tested)
Electronic adminstrative data/claims, lab data, pharmacy data
2a. 25 Data source/data collection instrument (Identify the specific data source/data collection instrument, e.g. name of database, clinical registry, collection instrument, etc. ):
Our data source is a proprietary Ingenix provider database that includes more than 60 million patients, over multiple years. It includes data from multiple payors. This measure specifically uses the following data from this database: member demographics, CPT codes, place of service, pharmacy claims, and LOINC (lab results) codes.

## 2a.26-28 Data source/data collection instrument reference web page URL or attachment:

2a.29-31 Data dictionary/code table web page URL or attachment: Attachment Input Guide_NQF.doc
2a.32-35 Level of Measurement/Analysis (Check the level(s) for which the measure is specified and tested)
Clinicians: Individual, Clinicians: Group, Facility/Agency, Health Plan, Integrated delivery system, Multisite/corporate chain, Program: Disease management, Program: QIO, Population: states, Population: counties or cities, Can be measured at all levels

2a.36-37 Care Settings (Check the setting(s) for which the measure is specified and tested)
Ambulatory Care: Clinic, Ambulatory Care: Emergency Dept, Ambulatory Care: Hospital Outpatient, nursing home (NH) / Skilled Nursing Facility (SNF), Rehabilitation Facility

## 2a.38-41 Clinical Services (Healthcare services being measured, check all that apply) <br> Clinicians: Physicians (MD/DO), Clinicians: PA/NP/Advanced Practice Nurse

TESTING/ANALYSIS
2b. Reliability testing
2b. 1 Data/sample (description of data/sample and size): Reliability is tested by using multiple databases. There are three primary databases that we use: 1) a customer acceptance (CAT) database that includes approximately 4000 members who satisfy the condition confirmation criteria; 2) a one million member face validity testing (FVT) database that is geographically diverse; and 3) a 15 million member benchmark database that is geographically diverse. All databases represent predominately a commercial population less than 65 year of age.

## 2b. 2 Analytic Method (type of reliability \& rationale, method for testing):

Quality assurance of each measure is accomplished through the testing using multiple methods and databases. Types of testing, data samples and volume vary to ensure the integrity of the measure. Rigorous development, analysis and testing processes are deployed for creating measure specifications. Software testing ensures the software is working as designed. Reliability and validity testing of measures is based on differing data samples and volume of members. National benchmarks are created on a large volume set of data representing members throughout the United States. All quality checks for all measure results must have consistent results and meet expected outcomes based on industry knowledge and experience.

Customer Acceptance Testing (CAT) is an important quality process. CAT ensures that the clinical measures are functioning as intended and that they generate accurate results for typical billing patterns. Using actual claims data a team of business analysts, nurses, and health services researchers conducts a detailed analysis of the output. For each clinical condition in the product (e.g., Diabetes Mellitus, Coronary Artery Disease, etc.) there is a set of CAT data with at least 4000 members who satisfy the condition confirmation criteria. This data is extracted from a large (50+ million member) multi-payer benchmark database and contains inpatient, outpatient, pharmacy, and laboratory data. The testing team analyzes claims from individual members and compares the creation of denominators (target population), numerators, and exclusions from this manual review process to output results from the quality measure.

Regression testing is the part of CAT that verifies the reliability of the product across software releases. For a new release the testing team confirms that every unchanged measure produces the same results as in previous releases, accounting for systematic changes to the software (e.g., code updates, logic changes, etc). Regression testing is conducted at multiple points throughout the software development cycle.

## 2b. 3 Testing Results (reliability statistics, assessment of adequacy in the context of norms for the test conducted):

Given the size of our benchmark database, it is the most reliable source for compliance results. Over 20,000 members from the benchmark database met the denominator definition for this measure. The overall compliance rate was 66.3 percent.

## 2c. Validity testing

2c. 1 Data/sample (description of data/sample and size): Our data sample for face validity testing includes a geographically diverse one million member database. Our data sample for benchmark testing includes a geographically diverse 15 million member database. Both databases represent predominately a commercial population less than 65 year of age.

## 2c. 2 Analytic Method (type of validity \& rationale, method for testing):

Face Validity Testing (FVT) is the final testing step in the software release cycle. One million members are randomly selected from the large multi-payer benchmark database and their claims data is processed through the software. The Medical Director reviews the results to verify that:

1. Prevalence rates for a condition are comparable to nationally published rates
2. Compliance rates for a measure are comparable to the rates reported in the published literature or by other national sources (e.g. HEDIS). If no comparable sources are available, the rates are judged based on what is clinically reasonable.
In addition, all results are reviewed for face validity by members of an external physician clinical consultant panel.

A similar review of benchmark test results occurs in conjunction with a software release. With benchmark testing, 15 million members are randomly selected from the large multi-payer benchmark database and their claims data is processed through the software.

Our claims-based measures have been validated using a chart review comparison process. This validation project is summarized below:
Goal: evaluate the reliability of claims-based measure results using chart review as the gold standard Methods:
The charts of 100 members from two clinics in one city were reviewed. Results from our claims-based measures were compared to information present in the chart. During this process, 726 measures were evaluated.
Results:
The overall error rate was less than $5 \%$. The error rate varied depending on the type of claim required for numerator compliance and is summarized as follows:
o The error rate was highest with medications, with an 11 percent error rate (2/18). From chart review, it was difficult to tell if this represented a real error, a medication sample was provided, or the prescription was never filled).
o The error rate was 4 percent $(14 / 318)$ for measures that required labs for numerator compliance. It was noted that a claims-based measure approach sometimes identified labs that were missing in chart review. o The error rate for office visit and specialty appointments was 2 percent (8/390). Of note, administrative claims was more likely than chart review to identify relevant office and specialty visits, particularly for appointments that occurred outside the clinic or network.
o Errors were found related to coding in claims data, not due to the claims-based measures or methodology. These errors were not quantified.

2c. 3 Testing Results (statistical results, assessment of adequacy in the context of norms for the test conducted):
Summarized in 2b3

## 2d. Exclusions Justified

2d. 1 Summary of Evidence supporting exclusion(s):
This measure does not include any exclusions.
2d. 2 Citations for Evidence:

## 2d. 3 Data/sample (description of data/sample and size):

2d. 4 Analytic Method (type analysis \& rationale):

2d. 5 Testing Results (e.g., frequency, variability, sensitivity analyses):

## 2e. Risk Adjustment for Outcomes/ Resource Use Measures

2e. 1 Data/sample (description of data/sample and size): This measure does not include risk adjustment.
2e. 2 Analytic Method (type of risk adjustment, analysis, \& rationale):

2e.3 Testing Results (risk model performance metrics):

2e. 4 If outcome or resource use measure is not risk adjusted, provide rationale:
2f. Identification of Meaningful Differences in Performance
2f. 1 Data/sample from Testing or Current Use (description of data/sample and size): Our benchmark data sample includes a geographically diverse 15 million member benchmark database. The database represents predominately a commercial population less than 65 year of age.

2f. 2 Methods to identify statistically significant and practically/meaningfully differences in performance (type of analysis \& rationale):
During benchmark testing, 15 million members are randomly selected from the large multi-payer
benchmark database and their claims data is processed through the software. The Medical Director reviews the results to verify that:

1. Prevalence rates for a condition are comparable to nationally published rates
2. Compliance rates for a measure are comparable to the rates reported in the published literature or by other national sources (e.g. HEDIS). If no comparable sources are available, the rates are judged based on what is clinically reasonable.
In addition, all results are systematically reviewed for face validity by members of an external physician clinical consultant panel.

2f. 3 Provide Measure Scores from Testing or Current Use (description of scores, e.g., distribution by quartile, mean, median, SD, etc.; identification of statistically significant and meaningfully differences in performance):
Summarized in 2b3
2g. Comparability of Multiple Data Sources/Methods
2g. 1 Data/sample (description of data/sample and size):
2 g .2 Analytic Method (type of analysis \& rationale):

2g. 3 Testing Results (e.g., correlation statistics, comparison of rankings):

## 2h. Disparities in Care

2h. 1 If measure is stratified, provide stratified results (scores by stratified categories/cohorts):
2h. 2 If disparities have been reported/identified, but measure is not specified to detect disparities, provide follow-up plans:

TAP/Workgroup: What are the strengths and weaknesses in relation to the sub-criteria for Scientific Acceptability of Measure Properties?
Steering Committee: Overall, to what extent was the criterion, Scientific Acceptability of Measure Properties, met?
Rationale:

## 3. USABILITY

Extent to which intended audiences (e.g., consumers, purchasers, providers, policy makers) can understand the results of the measure and are likely to find them useful for decision making. (evaluation criteria)

## 3a. Meaningful, Understandable, and Useful Information

3a. 1 Current Use: in use
3a. 2 Use in a public reporting initiative (disclosure of performance results to the public at large) (If used in a public reporting initiative, provide name of initiative(s), locations, Web page URL(s). If not publicly reported, state the plans to achieve public reporting within 3 years):
Health plans, physicians (individuals and groups), care management, and other vendors/customers are using this measure on a national level. However, we do not know if this specific measure is being used as part of a public reporting initiative.

3a. 3 If used in other programs/initiatives (If used in quality improvement or other programs/initiatives, name of initiative(s), locations, Web page URL(s). If not used for QI, state the plans to achieve use for QI within 3 years):
Health plans, physicians (individuals and groups), care management, and other vendors/customers use many of our measures on a national level for quality improvement, disease management, and physician sharing programs. Customers are able to select their measures depending on their business needs. As such, we do not know which specific measures are used by our customers.

Testing of Interpretability (Testing that demonstrates the results are understood by the potential users for public reporting and quality improvement)
3a. 4 Data/sample (description of data/sample and size): Results are summarized and reported by users/customers depending on their business need - we do not have access to this information. Because of us my multiple users/customers, there is no single data sample, methodology, or public reporting format.

3a. 5 Methods (e.g., focus group, survey, QI project):

3a. 6 Results (qualitative and/or quantitative results and conclusions):
3b/3c. Relation to other NQF-endorsed measures

3b. 1 NQF \# and Title of similar or related measures:
(for NQF staff use) Notes on similar/related endorsed or submitted measures:
3b. Harmonization
If this measure is related to measure(s) already endorsed by NQF (e.g., same topic, but different target population/setting/data source or different topic but same target population):

| 3b. 2 Are the measure specifications harmonized? If not, why? | $\begin{aligned} & \text { M } \square \\ & \text { N } \square \\ & \text { NA } \square \end{aligned}$ |
| :---: | :---: |
| 3c. Distinctive or Additive Value <br> 3c. 1 Describe the distinctive, improved, or additive value this measure provides to existing NQFendorsed measures: <br> 5.1 Competing Measures If this measure is similar to measure(s) already endorsed by NQF (i.e., on the same topic and the same target population), describe why it is a more valid or efficient way to measure quality: | 3c C $\square$ P $\square$ M $\square$ $\mathbf{N} \Gamma$ |
| TAP/Workgroup: What are the strengths and weaknesses in relation to the sub-criteria for Usability? | 3 |
| Steering Committee: Overall, to what extent was the criterion, Usability, met? Rationale: |  |
| 4. FEASIBILITY |  |
| Extent to which the required data are readily available, retrievable without undue burden, and can be implemented for performance measurement. (evaluation criteria) | Eval Rating |
| 4a. Data Generated as a Byproduct of Care Processes <br> 4a.1-2 How are the data elements that are needed to compute measure scores generated? coding/abstraction performed by someone other than person obtaining original information, | $\begin{aligned} & \text { 4a } \\ & \mathbf{C} \square \\ & \mathbf{P} \square \\ & \mathbf{M} \square \\ & \mathbf{N} \square \end{aligned}$ |
| 4b. Electronic Sources <br> 4b. 1 Are all the data elements available electronically? (elements that are needed to compute measure scores are in defined, computer-readable fields, e.g., electronic health record, electronic claims) Yes <br> 4b. 2 If not, specify the near-term path to achieve electronic capture by most providers. | $\begin{aligned} & \text { 4b } \\ & \mathbf{C} \square \\ & \mathbf{P} \square \\ & \mathbf{M} \square \\ & \mathbf{N} \square \end{aligned}$ |
| 4c. Exclusions <br> 4c. 1 Do the specified exclusions require additional data sources beyond what is required for the numerator and denominator specifications? <br> No <br> 4c. 2 If yes, provide justification. | $\begin{aligned} & \text { 4c } \\ & \text { C } \square \\ & \mathbf{P} \square \\ & \mathbf{M} \square \\ & \mathbf{N} \square \\ & \mathbf{N A} \square \end{aligned}$ |
| 4d. Susceptibility to Inaccuracies, Errors, or Unintended Consequences <br> 4d. 1 Identify susceptibility to inaccuracies, errors, or unintended consequences of the measure and describe how these potential problems could be audited. If audited, provide results. <br> In this measure, we exclude patients if they did not meet numerator compliance and, during the last 12 months of the report period, were in hospice or an "inpatient" facility (e.g., hospilization, nursing facility, rehabilitation facility, or behavioral health or substance use treatment program). This decreases errors related to test performed where specific electonic claims were not submitted. <br> Patients taking warfarin should have monthly protime INR monitoring at minimum. This measure sets a lower threshold of at least 3 within 6 months to account for some reasonable variations in care (e.g., stable | $\begin{aligned} & \text { 4d } \\ & \mathbf{C} \square \\ & \mathbf{P} \square \\ & \mathbf{M} \square \\ & \mathbf{N} \square \end{aligned}$ |

patient who may have monitoring at a 6 week rather than 4 week interval).
Finally, this measure does not account for possible INR home monitoring. However, home monitoring is not standard of care, and upon discussing this issue with selected customers, prevalence of use is extremely low (estimated at less than 2 percent). We were unable to find any published studies that document the current prevalence of home INR monitoring.

## 4e. Data Collection Strategy/Implementation

4e. 1 Describe what you have learned/modified as a result of testing and/or operational use of the measure regarding data collection, availability of data/missing data, timing/frequency of data collection, patient confidentiality, time/cost of data collection, other feasibility/ implementation issues:
Due to the increasing availability of LOINC codes (lab results), a protime INR LOINC code set was recently added to this measure. Updated face validity and benchmark results that assess the impact of this change will be available September 2010.

4 e .2 Costs to implement the measure (costs of data collection, fees associated with proprietary measures):
We do not have access to this information. This would vary based on the customer/vendor, patient population, and programs/interventions associated with measure use.

4e. 3 Evidence for costs:

4e. 4 Business case documentation:
TAP/Workgroup: What are the strengths and weaknesses in relation to the sub-criteria for Feasibility?

Steering Committee: Overall, to what extent was the criterion, Feasibility, met?
Rationale:

## RECOMMENDATION

| (for NQF staff use) Check if measure is untested and only eligible for time-limited endorsement. | Time- <br> limited |
| :--- | :---: |
| Steering Committee: Do you recommend for endorsement? <br> Comments: | Y |
|  | A |

## CONTACT INFORMATION

## Co. 1 Measure Steward (Intellectual Property Owner)

Co. 1 Organization
Ingenix | 12125 Technology Drive | Eden Prairie | Minnesota | 55344

## Co. 2 Point of Contact

Kay | Schwebke, Medical Director | kay.schwebke@ingenix.com | 952-833-7154

## Measure Developer If different from Measure Steward

Co. 3 Organization
Ingenix | 12125 Technology Drive | Eden Prairie | Minnesota | 55344
Co. 4 Point of Contact
Kay | Schwebke, Medical Director | kay.schwebke@ingenix.com | 952-833-7154

Co. 6 Additional organizations that sponsored/participated in measure development
This measure has been reviewed and supported by the American Acedemy of Family Physicians.

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

## Workgroup/Expert Panel involved in measure development

Ad. 1 Provide a list of sponsoring organizations and workgroup/panel members' names and organizations. Describe the members' role in measure development.
We have an external consultant panel that participates in the original literature search process, measure development, code set review, testing review, and maintenance processes. Panel members include the following:

NAME \& Title Employer/Position
Alexander, Beth Pharm D, BCPS Assistant Professor, Augsburg College Ayenew, Woubeshet, MD Hennepin Faculty Associates; Hennepin County Medical Center
Becker, Keith, MD Fairview Medical Center
Betcher, Susan, MD Allina Medical Clinic
Bruer, Paul, MD Comprehensive Ophthamology, LLC
Capecchi, Joseph, MD Allina Medical Clinic
Giesler, Janell, MD Allina Medical Clinic
Grabowski, Carol, MD Allina Medical Clinic
Hansen, Calvin, MD Iowa Health Physicians
Hargrove, Jody, MD Arthritis and Rheumatology Consultants
Hermann, Richard, MD Tufts - New England Medical Center
Jemming, Brian, Pharm D CentraCare Health System
Kohen, Jeffrey, MD Veterans Affairs Medical Center
McCarthy, Teresa, MD University of Minnesota, Department of Family
Medicine \& Community Health
McEvoy, Charlene, MD, MPH HealthPartners \& HealthPartners Research
Foundation; Assistant Professor of Medicine,
University of Minnesota
McGee, Deanna, Pharm D, BCPS Retail Pharmacy
Ogle, Kathleen, MD Hennepin Faculty Associates; Hennepin County
Medical Center: Assistant Professor of
Medicine, University of Minnesota Medical School
Peter, Kathleen, MD Park Nicollet Medical Center
Pieper-Bigelow, Christina, MD Allina Medical Clinic
Redmon, Bruce, MD University of Minnesota Physicians
Scharpf, Steven, MD Mountain Valleys Health Centers
Weitz, Carol, MD Independent

Ad. 2 If adapted, provide name of original measure:
Ad.3-5 If adapted, provide original specifications URL or attachment
Measure Developer/Steward Updates and Ongoing Maintenance
Ad. 6 Year the measure was first released: 2006
Ad. 7 Month and Year of most recent revision: 2009-03
Ad. 8 What is your frequency for review/update of this measure? every 3 years at minimum
Ad. 9 When is the next scheduled review/update for this measure? 2012-03
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## Input Guide

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## Input Guide

## What Input Files to Prepare

The following list specifies what input files you prepare for processing:

- The claims data file (required)
- The member data file (required)
- The member term data file (required)


## Input Guide

## Field Type Definitions and Input File Requirements

This chapter lists the field requirements for your input files. One of the attributes listed among the requirements is defined as "Type". There are four field types used to describe a field's value, and they are defined below.

| Field Type | Definition |
| :--- | :--- |
| AlphaNum | A value made of letters and/or numbers. If a value of this type is made of numbers only, it will not be a value <br> that can be operated on mathematically. For example, it would be inappropriate to subtract one procedure <br> code from another procedure code even though both values may contain only numbers. |
| Num | A value made of numbers only, and which can logically be operated on mathematically. Age is an example of <br> this type. <br> One particular field, while not used in mathematical calculations, is defined in the EBM Connect software as <br> such that it accepts only numeric values. (To enter a non-numeric value would cause EBM Connect <br> processing to stop.) Therefore, this field is defined as Num. It is the Case ID field in the optional disease <br> registry input file. |
| Date | A value which can be interpreted as a date value. Values should always use four-digit years but the format <br> may vary otherwise. |
| DecNum | A value made of numbers and a decimal point. These values can also logically be operated on <br> mathematically. |

## Claims Input File

The claims file contains detailed information on services that were billed or performed or otherwise rendered. The claims file includes:

- Medical claims, including medical services, facility services and clinic services
- Pharmacy claims, including billed prescriptions and drugs
- Lab claims, including lab test and results information

| Field Name | Type | Length | Required or Optional |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Family ID | AlphaNum | $1-30$ | Always required for all claims |
| Patient ID | AlphaNum | $0-2$ | Optional |
| Amount Paid | DecNum | $1-11$ | Required for all claims |
| Amount Allowed | DecNum | $0-11$ | Required for all claims |
| Procedure Code | AlphaNum | 5 | Required if there is no revenue code, NDC, or LOINC® code |
| Procedure Code Modifier | AlphaNum | 2 | Required for medical claims |
| Revenue Code | AlphaNum | 0 or 4 | Optional (applies to medical claims when used) |
| First Diagnosis Code | AlphaNum | 5 or 6 | Required for medical claims |
| Second Diagnosis Code | AlphaNum | 0,5 or 6 | Optional (applies to medical claims when used) |
| Third Diagnosis Code | AlphaNum | 0,5 or 6 | Optional (applies to medical claims when used) |
| Fourth Diagnosis Code | AlphaNum | 0,5 or 6 | Optional (applies to medical claims when used) |
| First Date of Service | Date | 8 or 10 | Always required for all claims |
| Last Date of Service | Date | 8 or 10 | Required for all claims |

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## Input Guide

| Paid Date | Date | 0, 8 or 10 | Optional |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Type of Service | AlphaNum | 0-10 | Optional |
| Provider ID | AlphaNum | 1-20 | Required for medical claims |
| Ordering Provider ID | AlphaNum | 0-20 | Optional |
| Provider Type | AlphaNum | 1-10 | Required for medical claims |
| Provider Specialty Type | AlphaNum | 1-10 | Required for medical claims |
| Provider Key | AlphaNum | 1-20 | Required for medical claims |
| NDC | AlphaNum | 0 or 11 | Required for Rx claims |
| Day Supply | Num | 0-4 | Required for Rx claims |
| Quantity Count | DecNum | 0-10 | Required for Rx claims |
| LOINC® | AlphaNum | 0 or 7 | Required for lab claims |
| Lab Test Result | AlphaNum | 0-18 | Required for lab claims |
| Place of Service | AlphaNum | 1-10 | Required for medical claims |
| Unique Record ID | AlphaNum | 1-28 | Required for all claims |
| Claim Number | AlphaNum | 1-28 | Required for all claims |
| Bill Type Frequency Indicator | Num | 0 or 1 | Optional |
| Patient Status | AlphaNum | 1-2 | Required for facility claims (involving admission or confinement). |
| Facility Type | AlphaNum | 0-2 | Optional |
| Bed Type | AlphaNum | 0-1 | Optional |
| First ICD-9 Procedure Code | AlphaNum | 0, 4 or 5 | Optional, but will impact results (applies to medical claims when used) |
| Second ICD-9 Procedure Code | AlphaNum | 0, 4 or 5 | Optional (see above) |
| Third ICD-9 Procedure Code | AlphaNum | 0, 4 or 5 | Optional (see above) |
| Fourth ICD-9 Procedure Code | AlphaNum | 0, 4 or 5 | Optional (see above) |

## Field Descriptions

Instructions for each input field are as follows:
Family ID
This field identifies all members of a family and can be any alphanumeric string.
Note: Remember that each Family ID (and Patient ID) listed in your claims input file must have a corresponding record in your member input data file and your member term data file.

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## Input Guide

## Patient ID

This field identifies individual members within a family. If present, this field must be sorted within Family ID, so that all records for an individual are contiguous. If the Family ID uniquely identifies an individual, this field need not be specified (that is, its length in the dictionary will be zero).

## Amount Paid

The amount paid for this claim line.

## Amount Allowed

The allowed amount for this claim line. This amount typically represents the total amount reimbursed including deductibles, copays, coinsurance, insurer paid, etc.

## Procedure Code

The procedure code must be one of:

- A procedure code specified in the Physician's Current Procedure Terminology, 4th Edition (CPT ${ }^{\oplus}-4$ codes) defined by the American Medical Association, for the years 1997 and later.
- A procedure code specified by the HCFA Common Procedure Coding System, Level II code (HCPCS) defined by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) for the years 1999 and later.
- A National Uniform Billing Committee (NUBC) revenue code.

Note: When the NUBC code is entered in the Procedure Code field, it should be padded to the right with blanks because the Procedure Code field always occupies five characters.

- If your organization defines its own procedure codes and/or revenue codes, they must be mapped to standard procedure and revenue codes.


## Procedure Code Modifier

Use this field to specify any procedure code modifier that accompanies the procedure code.

## Revenue Code

The revenue code, if one was entered for the claim. Supported values in this field are NUBC revenue codes. If your organization defines its own revenue codes, they must be mapped to standard revenue codes.

The revenue code is an optional field, allowing you to define your input records so that you can place an NUBC revenue code and a CPT/HCPCS procedure code on a single record line.

For claim records that do not have a revenue code, leave the revenue code field blank.

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## First Diagnosis Code Through Fourth Diagnosis Code

Up to four diagnoses may be entered for each claim, but only the first is required. If your organization defines its own diagnosis codes, they must be mapped to standard ICD-9 diagnosis codes.

## First Date of Service and Last Date of Service

The first date and last date represented by the claim line. If you choose to use a date format with separators (such as YYYY/MM/DD or YYYY-MM-DD), the separators are ignored on input, so you can use any character as a separator. Valid formats include: YYYYMMDD, MMDDYYYY, DDMMYYYY, YYYY/MM/DD, MM/DD/ YYYY, and DD/MM/YYYY, where the separator can be any character.

## Paid Date

This field is optional. This is the date the claim was paid. The format of the paid date must be the same as that used in the First and Last Date of Service.

## Type of Service

This is an optional code which represents the type of service (TOS) performed for this claim. If no specific value is available for this field, it should be filled with blanks. If this field is not used (i.e., its length is set to zero in the configuration), non-pharmaceutical claims with no procedure code will be treated as ancillary records.

## Provider ID

Provider identification number from the claim. Used to identify who performed the service.

## Ordering Provider ID

This is an optional field. This is the identification number of the provider who ordered the service.

## Provider Type

This code represents the type of provider who performed the service. Examples of provider types would be chiropractor, nurse practitioner, medical doctor, counselor, pharmacy, hospital or treatment facility.

## Provider Specialty Type

This code represents the specialty of the provider who performed the service.

## Provider Key

Unique number or code for a physician who has multiple provider IDs or specialties. A single health care provider may have multiple provider IDs in your input claims data, but this person or entity should have only one provider key.

## NDC

If this is a pharmaceutical claim, this field should contain the drug's NDC code. For nonpharmaceutical claim records, the NDC field should be filled with blanks.

## Day Supply

For pharmacy records, the number of days a filled prescription is expected to last. If you have no pharmacy records, the Days Supply is an optional field.

## Quantity Count

Quantity of drug dispensed in metric units:
Each - solid oral dosage forms (tablet, capsule), powder filled (dry) vials, packets, patches, units of use packages, suppositories, bars.

Milliliter - (cc) liquid oral dosage forms, liquid filled vials, ampules, reconstituted oral products.

Grams - ointments, bulk powders (not IV).
If you have no pharmacy records, the Quantity Count is an optional field.

## LOINC ${ }^{\text {® }}$

Logical Observation Identifiers Names and Codes (LOINC ${ }^{\oplus}$ ). The LOINC Code is a universal identifier for a lab test for a particular analyte. The LOINC User's Guide and database can be found at www.regenstrief.org.
Enter a LOINC code if the record is a lab record. For non-lab records, leave the LOINC field blank.

If you have no lab records in your claims input, the LOINC code is optional.
Notes:
(1) When using lab results data that has not been mapped to a LOINC code, map the comparable vendor-specific test number provided by the laboratory vendor(s) to one of these default codes.
(2) This is a retired code which may be present on historical data, or which some laboratories may be continuing to use. Input record data with this code is included in the definition of this test.

## Lab Test Result

If the record is a lab record, use this field to enter the result value of lab test. For nonlab records, this field should be blank.
If you have no lab records in your claims input, the Lab Test Result is optional.

## Place of Service

Place of service (POS). You must map your internal POS codes to Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) standard POS codes.

## Input Guide

## Unique Record ID

This required field contains a unique identifier representing the service line from the claim. For medical services, this ID typically represents the service row from the CMS 1500 or CMS 1450/UB92 claim form.

## Claim Number

A unique identifier used to link service lines for a specific claim submitted for a member. If a claim has multiple service lines, each service will have a unique record ID and the same claim number to represent the claim.

## Bill Type Frequency Indicator

This optional field is used to indicate the disposition of confinements.

## Patient Status

This field is required for facility claims. The contents will be the patient status indicator field from the NUBC UB-92 form. This field can denote whether the member died during a confinement.

## Facility Type

This field is optional. Space for it is provided to allow for additional post grouping analysis. The contents will typically be the UB-92 facility type data value. This would allow records to be easily selected for diagnosis related grouping (DRG) based on the facility type.

## Bed Type

If a value is present, this field acts as an additional discriminator in determining whether a Facility record extends an existing confinement or starts a new confinement.

## First ICD-9 Procedure Code Through Fourth ICD-9 Procedure Code

If your claims have ICD-9 procedure codes, include them in your claims input file.
If a decimal point will appear in this field in your claim records, the length should be given as 5 . If the decimal separator is not used, the length is 4 . If these fields are unused, the length is zero.

## Member Input File

The member data file contains the most current information about the member.

## Field Descriptions

| Field | Type | Length | Required or Optional |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Family ID | AlphaNum | $1-30$ | Required |
| Patient ID | AlphaNum | $0-2$ | Optional |
| Patient Gender | AlphaNum | 1 | Required |
| Date of Birth | Date | 8 or 10 | Required |
| Member Beginning Eligibility Date | Date | 0,8 or 10 | Optional |
| Member Ending Eligibility Date | Date | 0,8 or 10 | Optional |

Instructions for each input field are as follows:

## Family ID

This field identifies all members of a family and can be any alphanumeric string. The records in the member file must be sorted first on the Family ID (together with Patient ID, if available) so that all records for an individual are contiguous.

## Patient ID

This field identifies individual members within a family. If present, this field must be sorted within Family ID, so that all records for an individual are contiguous. If the Family ID uniquely identifies an individual, this field need not be specified (that is, its length in the dictionary will be zero).

## Patient Gender and Date of Birth

The member's gender (F or M) and date of birth. If you choose to use a date format with separators (such as YYYY/MM/DD or YYYY-MM-DD), the separators are ignored on input, so you can use any character as a separator. Valid date formats include: YYYYMMDD, MMDDYYYY, DDMMYYYY, YYYY/MM/DD, MM/DD/YYYY, and DD/MM/YYYY, where the separator can be any character.

## Member Beginning Eligibility Date and Ending Eligibility Date

The first date on which the member became covered under the plan and the last date of the member's coverage. If you choose to use a date format with separators (such as YYYY/MM/DD or YYYY-MM-DD), the separators are ignored on input, so you can use any character as a separator. Valid formats include: YYYYMMDD, MMDDYYYY, DDMMYYYY, YYYY/MM/DD, MM/DD/YYYY, and DD/MM/YYYY, where the separator can be any character.

## Input Guide

## Member Term Input File

The member term data file contains member coverage and term activity information. Plan coverage begin and end dates are required in order to correctly calculate the other fields in the member term file. There may be more than one record per individual member.

## Field Descriptions

| Field | Type | Length | Required or Optional |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Family ID | AlphaNum | $1-30$ | Required |
| Patient ID | AlphaNum | $0-2$ | Optional |
| Member Beginning Eligibility Date | Date | 8 or 10 | Required |
| Member Ending Eligibility Date | Date | 8 or 10 | Required |
| Primary Care Provider | AlphaNum | 20 | Required |
| Provider Specialty Type | AlphaNum | $1-10$ | Required |
| Medical Flag | AlphaNum | 1 | Required |
| Pharmacy Flag | AlphaNum | 1 | Required |

Instructions for each input field are as follows:

## Family ID

This field identifies all members of a family and can be any alphanumeric string. The records in the member term file must be sorted first on the Family ID (together with Patient ID, if available) so that all records for an individual are contiguous.

## Patient ID

This field identifies individual members within a family.

## Member Beginning Eligibility Date and Member Ending Eligibility Date

The first date on which the member became covered under the plan and the last date of the member's coverage. If you choose to use a date format with separators (such as YYYY/MM/DD or YYYY-MM-DD), the separators are ignored on input, so you can use any character as a separator. Valid formats include: YYYYMMDD, MMDDYYYY, DDMMYYYY, YYYY/MM/DD, MM/DD/YYYY, and DD/MM/YYYY, where the separator can be any character.

## Primary Care Provider

The provider key for the member's primary care physician. A single health care physician may have multiple provider IDs in your input claims data, but this person should have only one provider key.

## Input Guide

## Provider Specialty Type

This code represents the specialty of the primary care physician.

## Medical Flag

Identifies whether the member has medical coverage ( Y or N ).

## Pharmacy Flag

Identifies whether the member has pharmacy coverage ( Y or N ).

