

**PATIENT POPULATION:** Patients 3 years of age and older

**NUMERATOR COMPLIANCE:** Per HEDIS®, patients 3 years of age and older who were diagnosed with pharyngitis and:

- » Received a group A streptococcus test on the date of the encounter or within the 3 days prior to or after the encounter; **AND**
- » Filled a prescription for an antibiotic within 3 days of the encounter

## EXCLUSIONS

- » Comorbidities present at or within the 12 months prior to the encounter; including HIV, Malignant Neoplasms, Emphysema, COPD, and Disorders of the Immune System
- » Diagnosis of another infection requiring antibiotics on or within 3 days after the encounter
- » An antibiotic medication dispensed within the 30 days prior to the pharyngitis encounter
- » Encounters that result in an inpatient stay

## DOCUMENTATION REQUIREMENTS

Diagnosis of pharyngitis with date and positive result of strep test/throat culture. Prescription dispensing data is captured via pharmacy claims. Antibiotics with a strep test that meet compliance for this quality measure:

Amoxicillin	Cefdinir	Penicillin G potassium
Amoxicillin-clavulanate	Ceftibuten	Penicillin V potassium
Cephalexin	Ampicillin	Penicillin G sodium
Trimethoprim	Cefadroxil	Penicillin G benzathine
Azithromycin	Cefazolin	Ciprofloxacin
Clarithromycin	Clindamycin	Moxifloxacin
Erythromycin	Erythromycin	Cefaclor
Levofloxacin	Ofloxacin	Sulfamethoxazole-trimethoprim
Cefuroxime	Cefprozil	Minocycline
Doxycycline	Tetracycline	Cefditoren
	Cefpodoxime	Ceftriaxone
	Cefixime	

## COMMON DOCUMENTATION INSUFFICIENCIES

- » Failing to document comorbidities and/or competing diagnoses
- » Rapid strep test or throat culture must be completed prior to prescribing antibiotics
- » Clinical findings alone do not adequately confirm strep

## BEST PRACTICES

**1** Upload results of strep tests/throat cultures to EMR and label clearly for easy identification.

**2** Only prescribe an antibiotic if the strep test/throat culture confirms group A strep or other condition requiring antibiotic treatment. Review ACN Provider Portal for patients identified as non-compliant for this measure and provide education to clinicians as appropriate.

**3** For patients with negative group A strep results, educate patients and caregivers on appropriate antibiotic use and the risks of overuse (i.e., resistance to future bacterial strains), and instead recommend at-home treatments to help alleviate symptoms.

**4** Our care coordination team can provide patients with individualized support. To refer a patient please contact us:

602-406-7226 or 855-218-3451  
CareCoordination@azcarenetwork.org.

## CODE SUBMISSIONS TO CLOSE GAPS BY CLAIMS

Relevant pharyngitis codes that a primary care provider is the direct biller are listed below; submission of these codes will identify the patient for this measure as having pharyngitis.

CODE	DESCRIPTION
J02.0, J02.8, J02.9, J03.0, J03.01, J03.80, J03.81, J03.90, J03.91 (ICD-10)	Qualifying Pharyngitis Diagnosis
87070-71, 87081, 87430, 87650-52, 87880 (CPT)	Group A Strep Test



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