### Diabetes: Hemoglobin A1c (HbA1c) Poor Control (> 9%)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>eMeasure Title</strong></th>
<th>Diabetes: Hemoglobin A1c (HbA1c) Poor Control (&gt; 9%)</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>eMeasure Identifier (Measure Authoring Tool)</strong></td>
<td>122</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>eMeasure Version number</strong></td>
<td>5.0.000</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>NQF Number</strong></td>
<td>0059</td>
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<td><strong>GUID</strong></td>
<td>f2986519-5a4e-4149-a8f2-af0a1dc7f6bc</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Measurement Period</strong></td>
<td>January 1, 20XX through December 31, 20XX</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Measure Steward</strong></td>
<td>National Committee for Quality Assurance</td>
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<td><strong>Measure Developer</strong></td>
<td>National Committee for Quality Assurance</td>
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<td><strong>Endorsed By</strong></td>
<td>National Quality Forum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Description</strong></td>
<td>Percentage of patients 18-75 years of age with diabetes who had hemoglobin A1c &gt; 9.0% during the measurement period</td>
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<tr>
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<td><strong>Measure Scoring</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Measure Type</strong></td>
<td>Outcome</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Stratification</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Risk Adjustment</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Rate Aggregation</strong></td>
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</table>
| **Rationale** | As the seventh leading cause of death in the U.S., diabetes kills approximately 75,000 people a year (CDC FastStats 2015). Diabetes is a group of diseases marked by high blood glucose levels, resulting from the body's inability to produce or use insulin (CDC Statistics 2014, ADA Basics 2013). People with diabetes are at increased risk of serious health complications including vision loss, heart disease, stroke, kidney failure, amputation of toes, feet or legs, and premature death. (CDC Fact Sheet 2014).

In 2012, diabetes cost the U.S. an estimated $245 billion: $176 billion in direct medical costs and $69 billion in reduced productivity. This is a 41 percent increase from the estimated $174 billion spent on diabetes in 2007 (ADA Economic 2013).

Reducing A1c blood level results by 1 percentage point (eg, from 8.0 percent to 7.0 percent) helps reduce the risk of microvascular complications (eye, kidney and nerve diseases) by as much as 40 percent (CDC Estimates 2011). |
| **Clinical Recommendation Statement** | American Diabetes Association (2015):
- Lowering A1C to approximately 7% or less has been shown to reduce microvascular complications of diabetes, and, if implemented soon after the diagnosis of diabetes, it is associated with long-term reduction in macrovascular disease. Therefore, a reasonable A1C goal for many nonpregnant adults is 7%. (Level of evidence: B)
- Providers might reasonably suggest more stringent A1C goals (such as 6.5%) for selected individual patients if this can be achieved without significant hypoglycemia or other adverse effects of treatment. Appropriate patients might... |
include those with short duration of diabetes, type 2 diabetes treated with lifestyle or metformin only, long life expectancy, or no significant cardiovascular disease (CVD). (Level of evidence: C)

- Less stringent A1C goals (such as 8%) may be appropriate for patients with a history of severe hypoglycemia, limited life expectancy, advanced microvascular or macrovascular complications, extensive comorbid conditions, or long-standing diabetes in whom the general goal is difficult to attain despite diabetes self-management education, appropriate glucose monitoring, and effective doses of multiple glucose-lowering agents including insulin. (Level of evidence: B)

**Definition**

None

**Guidance**

Patient is numerator compliant if most recent HbA1c level >9%, the most recent HbA1c result is missing, or if there are no HbA1c tests performed and results documented during the measurement period. If the HbA1c test result is in the medical record, the test can be used to determine numerator compliance.

Only patients with a diagnosis of Type 1 or Type 2 diabetes should be included in the denominator of this measure; patients with a diagnosis of secondary diabetes due to another condition should not be included.

**Transmission Format**

TBD

**Initial Population**

Patients 18-75 years of age with diabetes with a visit during the measurement period

**Denominator**

Equals Initial Population

**Denominator Exclusions**

None

**Numerator**

Patients whose most recent HbA1c level (performed during the measurement period) is >9.0%

**Numerator Exclusions**

Not Applicable

**Denominator Exceptions**

None

**Supplemental Data Elements**

For every patient evaluated by this measure also identify payer, race, ethnicity and sex

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- Population Criteria
- Data Criteria (QDM Variables)
- Data Criteria (QDM Data Elements)
- Supplemental Data Elements
- Risk Adjustment Variables

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**Population Criteria**

- **Initial Population** =
  - AND: "Diagnosis: Diabetes" overlaps "Measurement Period"
  - AND: Age>= 18 year(s) at: "Measurement Period"
  - AND: Age< 75 year(s) at: "Measurement Period"
  - AND: Union of:
    - "Encounter, Performed: Office Visit"
    - "Encounter, Performed: Face-to-Face Interaction"
Diabetes: Hemoglobin A1c (HbA1c) Poor Control (> 9%)

- "Encounter, Performed: Preventive Care Services - Established Office Visit, 18 and Up"
- "Encounter, Performed: Preventive Care Services-Initial Office Visit, 18 and Up"
- "Encounter, Performed: Home Healthcare Services"
- "Encounter, Performed: Annual Wellness Visit"
- during "Measurement Period"

**Denominator**
- AND: Initial Population

**Denominator Exclusions**
- None

**Numerator**
- AND:
  - OR: "Laboratory Test, Performed: HbA1c Laboratory Test" satisfies all:
    - Most Recent: (result) during "Measurement Period"
    - (result > 9 %)
  - OR:
    - AND: Most Recent: "Occurrence A of Laboratory Test, Performed: HbA1c Laboratory Test" during "Measurement Period"
    - AND NOT: "Occurrence A of Laboratory Test, Performed: HbA1c Laboratory Test (result)"
    - OR NOT: "Laboratory Test, Performed: HbA1c Laboratory Test" during "Measurement Period"

**Numerator Exclusions**
- None

**Denominator Exceptions**
- None

**Stratification**
- None

**Data Criteria (QDM Variables)**
- None

**Data Criteria (QDM Data Elements)**
- "Diagnosis: Diabetes" using "Diabetes Grouping Value Set (2.16.840.1.113883.3.464.1003.103.12.1001)"
- "Encounter, Performed: Annual Wellness Visit" using "Annual Wellness Visit Grouping Value Set (2.16.840.1.113883.3.526.3.1240)"
- "Encounter, Performed: Face-to-Face Interaction" using "Face-to-Face Interaction Grouping Value Set (2.16.840.1.113883.3.464.1003.101.12.1048)"
- "Encounter, Performed: Office Visit" using "Office Visit Grouping Value Set (2.16.840.1.113883.3.464.1003.101.12.1001)"
- "Encounter, Performed: Preventive Care Services - Established Office Visit, 18 and Up" using "Preventive Care Services - Established Office Visit, 18 and Up Grouping Value Set (2.16.840.1.113883.3.464.1003.101.12.1025)"
- "Encounter, Performed: Preventive Care Services-Initial Office Visit, 18 and Up" using "Preventive Care Services-Initial Office Visit, 18 and Up Grouping Value Set (2.16.840.1.113883.3.464.1003.101.12.1023)"
- "Laboratory Test, Performed: HbA1c Laboratory Test" using "HbA1c Laboratory Test Grouping Value Set (2.16.840.1.113883.3.464.1003.198.12.1013)"

**Supplemental Data Elements**
- "Patient Characteristic Ethnicity: Ethnicity" using "Ethnicity CDCREC Value Set (2.16.840.1.114222.4.11.837)"
- "Patient Characteristic Payer: Payer" using "Payer SOP Value Set (2.16.840.1.114222.4.11.3591)"
- "Patient Characteristic Race: Race" using "Race CDCREC Value Set (2.16.840.1.114222.4.11.836)"
- "Patient Characteristic Sex: ONC Administrative Sex" using "ONC Administrative Sex AdministrativeGender Value Set (2.16.840.1.113762.1.4.1)"

**Risk Adjustment Variables**
- None