Quality ID #440: Skin Cancer: Biopsy Reporting Time – Pathologist to Clinician

**2024 COLLECTION TYPE:**
MIPS CLINICAL QUALITY MEASURES (CQMS)

**MEASURE TYPE:**
Process – High Priority

**DESCRIPTION:**
Percentage of biopsies with a diagnosis of cutaneous basal cell carcinoma (BCC) and squamous cell carcinoma (SCC), or melanoma (including in situ disease) in which the pathologist communicates results to the clinician within 7 days from the time when the tissue specimen was received by the pathologist.

**INSTRUCTIONS:**
This measure is to be submitted each time a biopsy is performed during the performance period. It is anticipated that Merit-based Incentive Payment System (MIPS) eligible clinicians providing the pathology services for procedures will submit this measure.

**NOTE:** To be eligible for this measure, the denominator must be met during the measurement period of 01/01/2024 to 12/24/2024. This is to provide sufficient time for the pathology results to be received by the biopsying clinician and for the performance of the numerator to be met within the performance period.

**Measure Submission Type:**
Measure data may be submitted by individual MIPS eligible clinicians, groups, or third-party intermediaries. The listed denominator criteria are used to identify the intended patient population. The numerator options included in this specification are used to submit the quality actions as allowed by the measure. The quality data codes listed do not need to be submitted by MIPS eligible clinicians, groups, or third-party intermediaries that utilize this modality for submissions; however, these codes may be submitted for those third-party intermediaries that utilize Medicare Part B claims data. For more information regarding Application Programming Interface (API), please refer to the Quality Payment Program (QPP) website.

**DENOMINATOR:**
All pathology reports generated by the Pathologist/Dermatopathologist consistent with cutaneous basal cell carcinoma, squamous cell carcinoma, or melanoma (to include in situ disease)

**Denominator Criteria (Eligible Cases):**
Diagnosis for cutaneous basal carcinoma or squamous cell carcinoma (ICD-10-CM): C44.01, C44.02, C44.111, C44.1121, C44.1122, C44.1191, C44.1192, C44.121, C44.1221, C44.1222, C44.1291, C44.1292, C44.211, C44.212, C44.219, C44.221, C44.222, C44.229, C44.310, C44.311, C44.319, C44.320, C44.321, C44.329, C44.41, C44.42, C44.510, C44.511, C44.519, C44.520, C44.521, C44.529, C44.611, C44.612, C44.619, C44.621, C44.622, C44.629, C44.711, C44.712, C44.719, C44.721, C44.722, C44.729, C44.81, C44.82, C44.91, C44.92, D00.01, D04.0, D04.10, D04.111, D04.112, D04.121, D04.122, D04.20, D04.21, D04.22, D04.30, D04.39, D04.4, D04.45, D04.60, D04.61, D04.62, D04.70, D04.71, D04.72, D04.8, D04.9

OR
Diagnosis for melanoma (ICD-10-CM): C43.0, C43.10, C43.11, C43.112, C43.121, C43.122, C43.20, C43.21, C43.22, C43.30, C43.31, C43.39, C43.4, C43.51, C43.52, C43.59, C43.60, C43.61, C43.62, C43.70, C43.71, C43.72, C43.8, C43.9, D03.0, D03.10, D03.111, D03.112, D03.121, D03.122, D03.20, D03.21, D03.22, D03.30, D03.39, D03.4, D03.51, D03.52, D03.59, D03.60, D03.61, D03.62, D03.70, D03.71, D03.72, D03.8, D03.9
OR
Other malignant diagnosis (ICD-10-CM): C06.0, C06.1, C06.2, C06.80, C06.89, C06.9, C44.90, C44.99, C46.0, C46.1, C49.0, C49.10, C49.11, C49.12, C49.20, C49.21, C49.22, C49.3, C49.4, C49.5, C49.6, C49.8, C49.9
AND
Patient procedure during the performance period (CPT): 88304, 88305
WITHOUT
Telehealth Modifier (including but not limited to): GQ, GT, 95, POS 02, POS 10
AND NOT
DENOMINATOR EXCLUSIONS:
Pathologists/Dermatopathologists providing a second opinion on a biopsy: G9784
OR
Pathologists/Dermatopathologists is the same clinician who performed the biopsy: G9939

NUMERATOR:
Number of final pathology reports diagnosing cutaneous basal cell carcinoma or squamous cell carcinoma or melanoma (to include in situ disease) sent from the Pathologist/Dermatopathologist to the biopsying clinician for review within 7 days from the time when the tissue specimen was received by the pathologist

Numerator Instructions:
Requirements for calculating the numerator include the following documentation in the Pathologist/Dermopathologist’s tracking system:
- Date tissue specimen received
- Date pathology report was sent to the biopsying clinician

Numerator Options:
Performance Met: Pathology report diagnosing cutaneous basal cell carcinoma, squamous cell carcinoma, or melanoma (to include in situ disease) sent from the Pathologist/Dermatopathologist to the biopsying clinician for review within 7 days from the time when the tissue specimen was received by the pathologist (G9785)

OR
Denominator Exception: Pathology report for tissue specimens produced from wide local excisions or re-excisions (M1166)

OR
Performance Not Met: Pathology report diagnosing cutaneous basal cell carcinoma, squamous cell carcinoma, or melanoma (to include in situ disease) was not sent from the Pathologist/Dermatopathologist to the biopsying clinician for review within 7 days from the time when the tissue specimen was received by the pathologist (G9786)

RATIONALE:
Effective communication through the biopsy report between pathologist and referring physician is essential; as delay may directly affect patient care. Furthermore, lack of timely delivery of results can increase the cost of medical care, error and the anxiety the patient experiences in waiting for results. This measure seeks to ensure timely communication and effective treatment for the patient.

CLINICAL RECOMMENDATION STATEMENTS:
“[Pathology] reports should be issued in a timely manner. Failure to report results promptly may delay patient care (thus uselessly adding to the cost of medical care), [and] lead to error and confusion…” (Holland Frei Cancer Medicine Vol. 8, 2010)
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2024 Clinical Quality Measure Flow for Quality ID #440: Skin Cancer: Biopsy Reporting Time – Pathologist to Clinician

Disclaimer: Refer to the measure specification for specific coding and instructions to submit this measure.

Start

- Diagnosis for cutaneous basal carcinoma or squamous cell carcinoma as listed in Denominator* (100 procedures)

- Diagnosis for melanoma as listed in Denominator*

- Other malignant diagnosis as listed in Denominator*

Denominator

- Patient procedure during the performance period: 88304, 88305 (100 procedures)

- Telehealth Modifier as listed in Denominator*

- Exclusions

- Other malignant diagnosis as listed in Denominator*

- Pathologists/Dermatopathologists providing a second opinion on a biopsy: G9784 or equivalent

- Pathologists/Dermatopathologists is the same clinician who performed the biopsy: G9939 or equivalent

Include in Eligible Population/Denominator (100 procedures)

Continue to Numerator

Not included in Eligible Population/Denominator
Pathology report diagnosing cutaneous basal cell carcinoma, squamous cell carcinoma, melanoma (to include in situ disease) sent from the Pathologist/Dermatopathologist to the biopsying clinician for review within 7 days from the time when the tissue specimen was received by the pathologist.

Data Completeness Met + Performance Met
G9785 or equivalent (40 procedures)

No

Pathology report for tissue specimens produced from wide local excisions or re-excisions

Data Completeness Met + Denominator Exception
M1166 or equivalent (20 procedures)

No

Pathology report diagnosing cutaneous basal cell carcinoma, squamous cell carcinoma, melanoma (to include in situ disease) was not sent from the Pathologist/Dermatopathologist to the biopsying clinician for review within 7 days from the time when the tissue specimen was received by the pathologist.

Data Completeness Met + Performance Not Met
G9786 or equivalent (30 procedures)

Data Completeness Not Met
Quality Data Code or equivalent not submitted (10 procedures)

SAMPLE CALCULATIONS

Data Completeness=
Performance Met (a=40 procedures) + Denominator Exceptions (b=20 procedures) + Performance Not Met (c=30 procedures) = 90 procedures = 90.00%
Eligible Population / Denominator (d=100 procedures) =100 procedures

Performance Rate=
Performance Met (a=40 procedures) = 40 procedures = 57.14%
Data Completeness Numerator (90 procedures) – Denominator Exceptions (b=20 procedures) = 70 procedures

* See the posted measure specification for specific coding and instructions to submit this measure.
NOTE: Submission Frequency: Procedure

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The measure diagrams were developed by CMS as a supplemental resource to be used in conjunction with the measure specifications. They should not be used alone or as a substitution for the measure specification.
2024 Clinical Quality Measure Flow Narrative for Quality ID #440:
Skin Cancer: Biopsy Reporting Time – Pathologist to Clinician

Disclaimer: Refer to the measure specification for specific coding and instructions to submit this measure.

1. Start with Denominator

2. Check Diagnosis for cutaneous basal carcinoma or squamous cell carcinoma as listed in Denominator*:
   a. If Diagnosis for cutaneous basal carcinoma or squamous cell carcinoma as listed in Denominator* equals No, proceed to check Diagnosis for melanoma as listed in Denominator*.
   b. If Diagnosis for cutaneous basal carcinoma or squamous cell carcinoma as listed in Denominator* equals Yes, proceed to check Patient procedure during the performance period.

3. Check Diagnosis for melanoma as listed in Denominator*:
   a. If Diagnosis for melanoma as listed in Denominator* equals No, proceed to check Other malignant diagnosis as listed in Denominator*.
   b. If Diagnosis for melanoma as listed in Denominator* equals Yes, proceed to check Patient procedure during the performance period.

4. Check Other malignant diagnosis as listed in Denominator*:
   a. If Other malignant diagnosis as listed in Denominator* equals No, do not include in Eligible Population/Denominator. Stop processing.
   b. If Other malignant diagnosis as listed in Denominator* equals Yes, proceed to check Patient procedure during the performance period.

5. Check Patient procedure during the performance period:
   a. If Patient procedure during the performance period equals No, do not include in Eligible Population/Denominator. Stop processing.
   b. If Patient procedure during the performance period equals Yes, proceed to check Telehealth Modifier as listed in Denominator*.

6. Check Telehealth Modifier as listed in Denominator*:
   a. If Telehealth Modifier as listed in Denominator* equals Yes, do not include in Eligible Population/Denominator. Stop processing.
   b. If Telehealth Modifier as listed in Denominator* equals No, proceed to check Pathologists/Dermatopathologists providing a second opinion on a biopsy.

7. Check Pathologists/Dermatopathologists providing a second opinion on a biopsy:
   a. If Pathologists/Dermatopathologists providing a second opinion on a biopsy equals Yes, do not include in Eligible Population/Denominator. Stop processing.
   b. If Pathologists/Dermatopathologists providing a second opinion on a biopsy equals No, proceed to check Pathologists/Dermatopathologists is the same clinician who performed the biopsy.

8. Check Pathologists/Dermatopathologists is the same clinician who performed the biopsy:
a. If Pathologists/Dermatopathologists is the same clinician who performed the biopsy equals Yes, do not include in Eligible Population/Denominator. Stop processing.

b. If Pathologists/Dermatopathologists is the same clinician who performed the biopsy equals No, include in Eligible Population/Denominator.

9. Denominator Population:
   - Denominator Population is all Eligible Procedures in the Denominator. Denominator is represented as Denominator in the Sample Calculation listed at the end of this document. Letter d equals 100 procedures in the Sample Calculation.

10. Start Numerator

11. Check Pathology report diagnosing cutaneous basal cell carcinoma, squamous cell carcinoma, melanoma (to include in situ disease) sent from the Pathologist/Dermatopathologist to the biopsying clinician for review within 7 days from the time when the tissue specimen was received by the pathologist:
   a. If Pathology report diagnosing cutaneous basal cell carcinoma, squamous cell carcinoma, melanoma (to include in situ disease) sent from the Pathologist/Dermatopathologist to the biopsying clinician for review within 7 days from the time when the tissue specimen was received by the pathologist equals Yes, include in Data Completeness Met and Performance Met.

      • Data Completeness Met and Performance Met is represented as Data Completeness and Performance Rate in the Sample Calculation listed at the end of this document. Letter a equals 40 procedures in the Sample Calculation.

   b. If Pathology report diagnosing cutaneous basal cell carcinoma, squamous cell carcinoma, melanoma (to include in situ disease) sent from the Pathologist/Dermatopathologist to the biopsying clinician for review within 7 days from the time when the tissue specimen was received by the pathologist equals No, proceed to check Pathology report for tissue specimens produced from wide local excisions or re-excisions.

12. Check Pathology report for tissue specimens produced from wide local excisions or re-excisions:
   a. If Pathology report for tissue specimens produced from wide local excisions or re-excisions equals Yes, include in Data Completeness Met and Denominator Exception.

      • Data Completeness Met and Denominator Exception is represented as Denominator Exceptions in the Sample Calculation listed at the end of this document. Letter b equals 20 procedures in the Sample Calculation.

   b. If Pathology report for tissue specimens produced from wide local excisions or re-excisions equals No, proceed to check Pathology report diagnosing cutaneous basal cell carcinoma, squamous cell carcinoma, melanoma (to include in situ disease) was not sent from the Pathologist/Dermatopathologist to the biopsying clinician for review within 7 days from the time when the tissue specimen was received by the pathologist.

13. Check Pathology report diagnosing cutaneous basal cell carcinoma, squamous cell carcinoma, melanoma (to include in situ disease) was not sent from the Pathologist/Dermatopathologist to the biopsying clinician for review within 7 days from the time when the tissue specimen was received by the pathologist:
   a. If Pathology report diagnosing cutaneous basal cell carcinoma, squamous cell carcinoma, melanoma (to include in situ disease) was not sent from the Pathologist/Dermatopathologist to the biopsying clinician for review within 7 days from the time when the tissue specimen was received by the pathologist equals Yes, include in Data Completeness Met and Performance Not Met.
• **Data Completeness Met and Performance Not Met** is represented as Data Completeness in the Sample Calculation listed at the end of this document. Letter c equals 30 procedures in the Sample Calculation.

b. If Pathology report diagnosing cutaneous basal cell carcinoma, squamous cell carcinoma, melanoma (to include in situ disease) was not sent from the Pathologist/Dermatopathologist to the biopsying clinician for review within 7 days from the time when the tissue specimen was received by the pathologist equals No, proceed to check **Data Completeness Not Met**.

14. Check **Data Completeness Not Met**:

• If Data Completeness Not Met, the Quality Data Code or equivalent was not submitted. 10 procedures have been subtracted from the Data Completeness Numerator in the Sample Calculation.

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**Sample Calculations**

Data Completeness equals Performance Met (a equals 40 procedures) plus Denominator Exceptions (b equals 20 procedures) plus Performance Not Met (c equals 30 procedures) divided by Eligible Population/Denominator (d equals 100 procedures). All equals 90 procedures divided by 100 procedures. All equals 90.00 percent.

Performance Rate equals Performance Met (a equals 40 procedures) divided by Data Completeness Numerator (90 procedures) minus Denominator Exceptions (b equals 20 procedures). All equals 40 procedures divided by 70 procedures. All equals 57.14 percent.

*See the posted measure specification for specific coding and instructions to submit this measure.

NOTE: Submission Frequency: Procedure

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