



Chlamydia Screening

In addition to being a quality measure for our BCBS Commercial program, chlamydia screening has now been implemented as an initiative of our Upper Payment Limit (UPL) Program. **All female patients ages 16 to 24 identified as sexually active should have at least one chlamydia screening during each measurement year.** Documentation of the chlamydia test should be included on the claim form.

Sexually active status is determined from claim/encounter and pharmacy data. Patients with a diagnosis of pregnancy and patients who receive a pregnancy test are considered sexually active. Patients who are dispensed prescription contraceptives during the measurement year are considered sexually active regardless of diagnosis. Patients on contraceptives for reasons other than birth control are not excluded from the measure. Therefore, a gap will show up anytime a birth control prescription is filled for a woman in this age range, regardless of the reason it is prescribed.

Patients may be hesitant or anxious about being tested for chlamydia, but try to emphasize that sexual health screenings are an important and normal part of routine care. A urine test for chlamydia will meet compliance for this measure and is non-invasive. Even though only a chlamydia screen needs to be ordered, ordering the combined chlamydia/gonorrhea test will also close the gap.

- GC / CT DNA Amplified Probe (CT GC)
- C Trachomatis & N Gonorrhoeae Amplified Urine (CT GC)

Helpful Tip: If a patient becomes pregnant in one calendar year (and has the chlamydia screening as part of the prenatal lab panel), and then gives birth in the next calendar year, she will need to have another chlamydia test at her postpartum visit