Measure #326 (NQF 1525): Atrial Fibrillation and Atrial Flutter: Chronic Anticoagulation Therapy – National Quality Strategy Domain: Effective Clinical Care

2016 PQRS OPTIONS FOR INDIVIDUAL MEASURES: CLAIMS, REGISTRY

DESCRIPTION:
Percentage of patients aged 18 years and older with a diagnosis of nonvalvular atrial fibrillation (AF) or atrial flutter whose assessment of the specified thromboembolic risk factors indicate one or more high-risk factors or more than one moderate risk factor, as determined by CHADS2 risk stratification, who are prescribed warfarin OR another oral anticoagulant drug that is FDA approved for the prevention of thromboembolism

INSTRUCTIONS:
This measure is to be reported a minimum of once per reporting period for patients with nonvalvular AF or atrial flutter seen during the reporting period. This measure may be reported by clinicians who perform the quality actions described in the measure based on the services provided and the measure-specific denominator coding.

Measure Reporting via Claims:
ICD-10-CM diagnosis codes, CPT codes and patient demographics are used to identify patients who are included in the measure’s denominator. Quality-data codes are used to report the numerator of the measure.

When reporting the measure via claims, submit the listed ICD-10-CM diagnosis codes, CPT codes, and the appropriate quality-data code(s). All measure-specific coding should be reported on the claim(s) representing the eligible encounter.

Measure Reporting via Registry:
ICD-10-CM diagnosis codes, CPT codes and patient demographics are used to identify patients who are included in the measure’s denominator. The listed numerator options are used to report the numerator of the measure.

The quality-data codes listed do not need to be submitted for registry-based submissions; however, these codes may be submitted for those registries that utilize claims data.

DENOMINATOR:
All patients aged 18 years and older with a diagnosis of nonvalvular AF or atrial flutter whose assessment of the specified thromboembolic risk factors indicate one or more high-risk factors or more than one moderate risk factor, as determined by CHADS2 risk stratification

Denominator Criteria (Eligible Cases):
Patients aged ≥ 18 years on date of encounter
AND
AND
Patient encounter during the reporting period (CPT): 99201, 99202, 99203, 99204, 99205, 99212, 99213, 99214, 99215, 99281, 99283, 99284, 99285, 99304, 99305, 99306, 99307, 99308, 99309, 99310, 99324, 99325, 99326, 99327, 99328, 99334, 99335, 99336, 99337, 99341, 99342, 99343, 99344, 99345, 99347, 99348, 99349, 99350

NUMERATOR:
Patients who are prescribed warfarin OR another oral anticoagulant drug that is FDA approved for the prevention of thromboembolism
Definition:
Prescribed – May include prescription given to the patient for warfarin OR another oral anticoagulant that is FDA approved for the prevention of thromboembolism at one or more visits in the measurement period OR patient already taking warfarin OR another oral anticoagulant that is FDA approved for the prevention of thromboembolism as documented in current medication list.

The assessment of patients with nonvalvular AF or atrial flutter for thromboembolic risk factors should include the following criteria:

Table 1 - Risk Factors for Atrial Fibrillation and Atrial Flutter

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Risk Factors</th>
<th>Weighting</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prior stroke, TIA or systemic embolism</td>
<td>High risk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Age ≥ 75 years</td>
<td>Moderate risk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hypertension</td>
<td>Moderate risk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diabetes Mellitus</td>
<td>Moderate risk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heart failure or impaired left ventricular systolic function</td>
<td>Moderate risk</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Numerator Quality-Data Coding Options for Reporting Satisfactorily:
Warfarin OR Another Oral Anticoagulant that is FDA Approved Prescribed
(Two quality-data codes [G8967 & G8972] are required on the claim form to submit this numerator option)

**Performance Met: G8967:**
Warfarin OR another oral anticoagulant that is FDA approved prescribed

AND

**G8972:**
One or more high risk factors for thromboembolism OR more than one moderate risk factor for thromboembolism

OR

Warfarin OR Another Oral Anticoagulant that is FDA Approved not Prescribed for Medical, or Patient Reasons
(Two quality-data codes [G896x & G8972] are required on the claim form to submit this numerator option)

**Medical Performance Exclusion: G8968:**
Documenting of medical reason(s) for not prescribing warfarin OR another oral anticoagulant that is FDA approved for the prevention of thromboembolism [e.g., patients with mitral stenosis or prosthetic heart valves, patients with transient or reversible causes of AF (e.g., pneumonia, hyperthyroidism, pregnancy, cardiac surgery), allergy, risk of bleeding, other medical reasons]

AND

**G8972:**
One or more high risk factors for thromboembolism OR more than one moderate risk factor for thromboembolism

OR

**Patient Performance Exclusion: G8969:**
Documenting of patient reason(s) for not prescribing warfarin OR another oral anticoagulant that is FDA approved for the prevention of thromboembolism (e.g., economic, social, and/or religious impediments, noncompliance, patient refusal, other patient reasons)

AND
G8972: One or more high risk factors for thromboembolism OR more than one moderate risk factor for thromboembolism

OR

No Risk Factors or One Moderate Risk Factor for Thromboembolism, Patient not Eligible
(One quality-data code [G8970] is required on the claim form to submit this numerator option)

Other Performance Exclusion: G8970: No risk factors or one moderate risk factor for thromboembolism

OR

Warfarin OR Another Oral Anticoagulant that is FDA Approved not Prescribed, Reason not Given
(Two quality-data codes [G8971 & G8972] are required on the claim form to submit this numerator option)

Performance Not Met: G8971: Warfarin OR another oral anticoagulant that is FDA approved not prescribed, reason not given

AND

G8972: One or more high risk factors for thromboembolism OR more than one moderate risk factor for thromboembolism

RATIONALE:
Anticoagulation should be prescribed for all high risk patients with AF or atrial flutter except those with contraindications to anticoagulation. Aspirin is preferred in patients without risk factors or in those with contraindications to anticoagulation, and is an alternative to anticoagulation in those with only one moderate risk factor.

CLINICAL RECOMMENDATION STATEMENTS:

Class I

Antithrombotic therapy to prevent thromboembolism is recommended for all patients with AF, except those with lone AF or contraindications. (Level of Evidence: A)

The selection of the antithrombotic agent should be based upon the absolute risks of stroke and bleeding and the relative risk and benefit for a given patient. (Level of Evidence: A)

For patients without mechanical heart valves at high risk of stroke, chronic oral anticoagulant therapy with a vitamin K antagonist is recommended in a dose adjusted to achieve the target intensity international normalized ratio (INR) of 2.0 to 3.0, unless contraindicated. Factors associated with highest risk for stroke in patients with AF are prior thromboembolism (stroke, transient ischemic attack, or systemic embolism) and rheumatic mitral stenosis. (Level of Evidence: A)

Anticoagulation with a vitamin K antagonist is recommended for patients with more than 1 moderate risk factor. Such factors include age 75 y or greater, hypertension, HF, impaired LV systolic function (ejection fraction 35% or less or fractional shortening less than 25%), and diabetes mellitus. (Level of Evidence: A)

Aspirin, 81–325 mg daily, is recommended as an alternative to vitamin K antagonists in low-risk patients or in those with contraindications to oral anticoagulation. (Level of Evidence: A)

Antithrombotic therapy is recommended for patients with atrial flutter as for those with AF. (Level of Evidence: C)
Dabigatran is useful as an alternative to warfarin for the prevention of stroke and systemic thromboembolism in patients with paroxysmal to permanent AF and risk factors for stroke or systemic embolization who do not have a prosthetic heart valve or hemodynamically significant valve disease, severe renal failure (creatinine clearance 15 mL/min) or advanced liver disease (impaired baseline clotting function). (Level of Evidence: B)

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2016 Claims Individual Measure Flow
PQRS #326 NQF #1525: Atrial Fibrillation and Atrial Flutter: Chronic Anticoagulation Therapy

Denominator

Start

Patient Age on Date of Service ≥ 18 Years

No

No

Diagnosis of Nonvalvular Atrial Fibrillation or Atrial Flutter as Listed in Denominator

Yes

Reporting Met + Performance Met G8967 AND G8972 (3 patients)
a

Not Included in Eligible Population/Denominator

Reporting Not Met Quality-Data Code or equivalent not reported (1 patient)

Include in Eligible Population/Denominator (8 patients)
d

Encounter as Listed in Denominator* (1/1/2016 thru 12/31/2016)

Yes

Numerator

Warfarin OR Another Oral Anticoagulant that is FDA Approved Prescribed AND One or More High Risk Factors for Thromboembolism or More than one Moderate Risk Factor for Thromboembolism

Yes

No

Documentation of Medical Reason(s) for Not Prescribing Warfarin or Another Oral Anticoagulant that is FDA Approved for the Prevention of Thromboembolism AND One or More High Risk Factors for Thromboembolism or More than one Moderate Risk Factor for Thromboembolism

Yes

Reporting Met + Performance Exclusion G8968 AND G8972 (0 patients)
b1

No

No

Documentation of Patient Reason(s) for Not Prescribing Warfarin or Another Oral Anticoagulant that is FDA Approved for the Prevention of Thromboembolism AND One or More High Risk Factors for Thromboembolism or More than one Moderate Risk Factor for Thromboembolism

Yes

Reporting Met + Performance Exclusion G8969 AND G8972 (2 patients)
b2

No

No

No Risk Factors or One Moderate Risk Factor for Thromboembolism

Yes

Reporting Met + Performance Not Met G8970 (0 patients)
b3

No

Warfarin OR Another Oral Anticoagulant that is FDA Approved Not Prescribed, Reason Not Given AND One or More High Risk Factors for Thromboembolism or More than one Moderate Risk Factor for Thromboembolism

Yes

Reporting Met + Performance Not Met G8971 & G8972 or equivalent (2 patients)c

No

Sampling Calculations:

Reporting Rate = Performance Met (a=3 patients) + Performance Exclusion (b1 + b2 + b3=2 patients) + Performance Not Met (c=2 patients) / Eligible Population / Denominator (d=8 patients) = 7 patients = 87.50%

Performance Rate = Performance Met (a=3 patients) / Reporting Numerator (7 patients) - Performance Exclusion (b1 + b2 + b3=2 patients) / Reporting Numerator (7 patients) - Performance Not Met (c=2 patients) / Reporting Numerator (7 patients) + Performance Exclusion (b1 + b2 + b3=2 patients) / Reporting Numerator (7 patients) = 3 patients = 60.00%

* See the posted Measure Specification for specific coding and instructions to report this measure.
** See the posted Measure Specification for recommended (G8972 or equivalent) definitions for exclusion criteria for this measure.

NOTE: Reporting Frequency: Patient-process

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The measure algorithms 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.
2016 Claims Individual Measure Flow
PQRS #326 NQF #1525: Atrial Fibrillation and Atrial Flutter: Chronic Anticoagulation Therapy

Please refer to the specific section of the Measure Specification to identify the denominator and numerator information for use in reporting this Individual Measure.

1. Start with Denominator

2. Check Patient Age:
   a. If the Age is greater than or equal to 18 years of age on Date of Service and equals No during the measurement period, do not include in Eligible Patient Population. Stop Processing.
   b. If the Age is greater than or equal to 18 years of age on Date of Service and equals Yes during the measurement period, proceed to check Patient Diagnosis.

3. Check Patient Diagnosis:
   a. If Diagnosis of Nonvalvular Atrial Fibrillation or Atrial Flutter as Listed in the Denominator equals No, do not include in Eligible Patient Population. Stop Processing.
   b. If Diagnosis of Nonvalvular Atrial Fibrillation or Atrial Flutter as Listed in the Denominator equals Yes, proceed to Encounter Performed.

4. Check Encounter Performed:
   a. If Encounter Performed as Listed in the Denominator equals No, do not include in Eligible Patient Population. Stop Processing.
   b. If Encounter as Listed in the Denominator equals Yes, include in Eligible Population.

5. Denominator Population:
   a. Denominator population is all Eligible Patients in the denominator. Denominator is represented as Denominator in the Sample Calculation listed at the end of this document. Letter d equals 8 patients in the sample calculation.

6. Start Numerator

7. Check Warfarin OR Another Oral Anticoagulant that is FDA Approved Prescribed and One or More High Risk Factors for Thromboembolism or more than one Moderate Risk Factor for Thromboembolism:
   a. If Warfarin OR Another Oral Anticoagulant that is FDA Approved Prescribed and One or More High Risk Factors for Thromboembolism or more than one Moderate Risk Factor for Thromboembolism equals Yes, include in Reporting Met and Performance Met.
   b. Reporting Met and Performance Met letter is represented in the Reporting Rate and Performance Rate in the Sample Calculation listed at the end of this document. Letter a equals 3 patients in Sample Calculation.
c. If Warfarin OR Another Oral Anticoagulant that is FDA Approved Prescribed and One or More High Risk Factors for Thromboembolism or more than one Moderate Risk Factor for Thromboembolism equals No, proceed to check Documentation of Medical Reason(s) for Not Prescribing Warfarin or Another Oral Anticoagulant that is FDA Approved for Prevention of Thromboembolism and One or More High Risk Factors for Thromboembolism or more than one Moderate Risk Factor for Thromboembolism.

8. Check Documentation of Medical Reason(s) for Not Prescribing Warfarin or Another Oral Anticoagulant that is FDA Approved for Prevention of Thromboembolism and One or More High Risk Factors for Thromboembolism:

   a. If Documentation of Medical Reason(s) for Not Prescribing Warfarin or Another Oral Anticoagulant that is FDA Approved for Prevention of Thromboembolism and One or More High Risk Factors for Thromboembolism or more than one Moderate Risk Factor for Thromboembolism equals Yes, include in the Reporting Met and Performance Exclusion.

   b. Reporting Met and Performance Exclusion letter is represented in the Reporting Rate and Performance Rate in the Sample Calculation listed at the end of this document. Letter b1 equals 0 patients in the Sample Calculation.

   c. If Documentation of Medical Reason(s) for Not Prescribing Warfarin or Another Oral Anticoagulant that is FDA Approved for Prevention of Thromboembolism and One or More High Risk Factors for Thromboembolism or more than one Moderate Risk Factor for Thromboembolism equals No, proceed to check Documented Patient Reason(s) for Not Prescribing Warfarin or Another Oral Anticoagulant that is FDA Approved for Prevention of Thromboembolism and One or More High Risk Factors for Thromboembolism or more than one Moderate Risk Factor for Thromboembolism.

9. Check Documentation of Patient Reason(s) for Not Prescribing Warfarin or Another Oral Anticoagulant that is FDA Approved for Prevention of Thromboembolism and One or More High Risk Factors for Thromboembolism:

   a. If Documented Patient Reason(s) for Not Prescribing Warfarin or Another Oral Anticoagulant that is FDA Approved for Prevention of Thromboembolism and One or More High Risk Factors for Thromboembolism or more than one Moderate Risk Factor for Thromboembolism equals Yes, include in the Reporting Met and Performance Exclusion.

   b. Reporting Met and Performance Exclusion letter is represented in the Reporting Rate and Performance Rate in the Sample Calculation listed at the end of this document. Letter b2 equals 2 patients in the Sample Calculation.

   c. If Documentation of Patient Reason(s) for Not Prescribing Warfarin or Another Oral Anticoagulant that is FDA Approved for Prevention of Thromboembolism and One or More High Risk Factors for Thromboembolism or more than one Moderate Risk Factor for Thromboembolism equals No, proceed to check No Risk Factors or One Moderate Risk Factor for Thromboembolism.

10. Check No Risk Factors or One Moderate Risk Factor for Thromboembolism:

   a. If No Risk Factors or One Moderate Risk Factor for Thromboembolism equals Yes, include in the Reporting Met and Performance Exclusion.

   b. Reporting Met and Performance Exclusion letter is represented in the Reporting Rate and Performance Rate in the Sample Calculation listed at the end of this document. Letter b3 equals 0 patients in the Sample Calculation.
c. If No Risk Factors or One Moderate Risk Factor for Thromboembolism equals No, proceed to check Warfarin OR Another Oral Anticoagulant that is FDA Approved Not Prescribed, Reason Not Given and One or More High Risk Factors for Thromboembolism or more than one Moderate Risk Factor for Thromboembolism

11. Check Warfarin OR Another Oral Anticoagulant that is FDA Approved Not Prescribed, Reason Not Given and One or More High Risk Factors for Thromboembolism or more than one Moderate Risk Factor for Thromboembolism:
   
a. If Warfarin OR Another Oral Anticoagulant that is FDA Approved Not Prescribed, Reason Not Given and One or More High Risk Factors for Thromboembolism or more than one Moderate Risk Factor for Thromboembolism equals Yes, include in Reporting Met and Performance Not Met.
   
b. Reporting Met and Performance Not Met letter is represented in the Reporting Rate in the Sample Calculation listed at the end of this document. Letter c equals 2 patients in the Sample Calculation.
   
c. If Warfarin OR Another Oral Anticoagulant that is FDA Approved Not Prescribed, Reason Not Given and One or More High Risk Factors for Thromboembolism or more than one Moderate Risk Factor for Thromboembolism equals No, proceed to Reporting Not Met.

12. Check Reporting Not Met:
   
a. If Reporting Not Met equals No, the Quality Data Code or equivalent was not reported. 1 patient has been subtracted from the reporting numerator in the sample calculation.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SAMPLE CALCULATIONS:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reporting Rate=</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Performance Met (a=3 patients) + Performance Exclusion (b^2 + b^3 + b^4=2 patients) + Performance Not Met (c=2 patients) = 7 patients = 87.50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eligible Population / Denominator (d=8 patients) = 8 patients</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Performance Rate=</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Performance Met (a=3 patients) = 3 patients = 60.00%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reporting Numerator (7 patients) – Performance Exclusion (b^1 + b^2 + b^3=2 patients) = 5 patients</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
2016 Registry Individual Measure Flow
PQRS #326 NQF #1525: Atrial Fibrillation and Atrial Flutter: Chronic Anticoagulation Therapy

Please refer to the specific section of the Measure Specification to identify the denominator and numerator information for use in reporting this Individual Measure.

1. Start with Denominator

2. Check Patient Age:
   a. If the Age is greater than or equal to 18 years of age on Date of Service and equals No during the measurement period, do not include in Eligible Patient Population. Stop Processing.
   b. If the Age is greater than or equal to 18 years of age on Date of Service and equals Yes during the measurement period, proceed to check Patient Diagnosis.

3. Check Patient Diagnosis:
   a. If Diagnosis of Nonvalvular Atrial Fibrillation or Atrial Flutter as Listed in the Denominator equals No, do not include in Eligible Patient Population. Stop Processing.
   b. If Diagnosis of Nonvalvular Atrial Fibrillation or Atrial Flutter as Listed in the Denominator equals Yes, proceed to Encounter Performed.

4. Check Encounter Performed:
   a. If Encounter Performed as Listed in the Denominator equals No, do not include in Eligible Patient Population. Stop Processing.
   b. If Encounter as Listed in the Denominator equals Yes, check One or More High Risk Factors for Thromboembolism OR More than One Moderate Risk Factor for Thromboembolism,

5. Check One or More High Risk Factors for Thromboembolism OR More than One Moderate Risk Factor for Thromboembolism:
   a. If One or More High Risk Factors for Thromboembolism OR More than One Moderate Risk Factor for Thromboembolism equals No, do not include in Eligible Patient Population. Stop Processing.
   b. If One or More High Risk Factors for Thromboembolism OR More than One Moderate Risk Factor for Thromboembolism equals Yes, include in the Eligible Population.

6. Denominator Population:
   a. Denominator population is all Eligible Patients in the denominator. Denominator is represented as Denominator in the Sample Calculation listed at the end of this document. Letter d equals 8 patients in the sample calculation.

7. Start Numerator

8. Check Warfarin OR Another Oral Anticoagulant that is FDA Approved Prescribed:
   a. If Warfarin OR Another Oral Anticoagulant that is FDA Approved Prescribed equals Yes, include in Reporting Met and Performance Met.
b. Reporting Met and Performance Met letter is represented in the Reporting Rate and Performance Rate in the Sample Calculation listed at the end of this document. Letter a equals 3 patients in Sample Calculation.

c. If Warfarin OR Another Oral Anticoagulant that is FDA Approved Prescribed equals No, proceed to check Documentation of Medical Reason(s) for Not Prescribing Warfarin or Another Oral Anticoagulant that is FDA Approved for Prevention of Thromboembolism.

9. Check Documentation of Medical Reason(s) for Not Prescribing Warfarin or Another Oral Anticoagulant that is FDA Approved for Prevention of Thromboembolism:

a. If Documented of Medical Reason(s) for Not Prescribing Warfarin or Another Oral Anticoagulant that is FDA Approved for Prevention of Thromboembolism equals Yes, include in the Reporting Met and Performance Exclusion.

b. Reporting Met and Performance Exclusion letter is represented in the Reporting Rate and Performance Rate in the Sample Calculation listed at the end of this document. Letter b1 equals 0 patients in the Sample Calculation.

c. If Documentation of Medical Reason(s) for Not Prescribing Warfarin or Another Oral Anticoagulant that is FDA Approved for Prevention of Thromboembolism equals No, proceed to check Documentation of Patient Reason(s) for Not Prescribing Warfarin or Another Oral Anticoagulant that is FDA Approved for Prevention of Thromboembolism.

10. Check Documentation of Patient Reason(s) for Not Prescribing Warfarin or Another Oral Anticoagulant that is FDA Approved for Prevention of Thromboembolism:

a. If Documentation of Patient Reason(s) for Not Prescribing Warfarin or Another Oral Anticoagulant that is FDA Approved for Prevention of Thromboembolism equals Yes, include in the Reporting Met and Performance Exclusion.

b. Reporting Met and Performance Exclusion letter is represented in the Reporting Rate and Performance Rate in the Sample Calculation listed at the end of this document. Letter b2 equals 2 patients in the Sample Calculation.

c. If Documentation of Patient Reason(s) for Not Prescribing Warfarin or Another Oral Anticoagulant that is FDA Approved for Prevention of Thromboembolism equals No, proceed to Warfarin OR Another Oral Anticoagulant that is FDA Approved Not Prescribed, Reason Not Given.

11. Check Warfarin OR Another Oral Anticoagulant that is FDA Approved Not Prescribed, Reason Not Given:

a. If Warfarin OR Another Oral Anticoagulant that is FDA Approved Not Prescribed, Reason Not Given equals Yes, include in Reporting Met and Performance Not Met.

b. Reporting Met and Performance Not Met letter is represented in the Reporting Rate in the Sample Calculation listed at the end of this document. Letter c equals 2 patients in the Sample Calculation.

c. If Warfarin OR Another Oral Anticoagulant that is FDA Approved Not Prescribed, Reason Not Given equals No, proceed to Reporting Not Met.

12. Check Reporting Not Met:

a. If Reporting Not Met equals No, the Quality Data Code or equivalent was not reported. 1 patient has been subtracted from the reporting numerator in the sample calculation.
SAMPLE CALCULATIONS:

Reporting Rate = \( \frac{\text{Performance Met (a=3 patients) + Performance Exclusion (b^1 + b^2 = 2 patients) + Performance Not Met (c=2 patients)}}{\text{Eligible Population / Denominator (d=8 patients)}} = \frac{7 \text{ patients}}{8 \text{ patients}} = 87.50\% \)

Performance Rate = \( \frac{\text{Performance Met (a=3 patients)}}{\text{Reporting Numerator (7 patients) – Performance Exclusion (b^1 + b^2 = 2 patients)}} = \frac{3 \text{ patients}}{5 \text{ patients}} = 60.00\% \)