

Description of the measure

Patients 18-50 years old with a primary diagnosis of low back pain who did not have an imaging study (X-ray, MRI, CT scan) within 28 days of the diagnosis.

**This measure is reported as an inverted rate—a higher proportion for whom imaging studies did not occur indicates appropriate care and higher performance.*

Tips for best practice

- Avoid ordering imaging studies unless clinically necessary
- Educate patients on finding alternatives for pain relief and comfort
- Use exclusion codes if applicable

Exclusion(s)

N/A

Diagnosis of (anytime during the patient’s history)	Sample ICD-10-CM, CPT and HCPCS codes
Cancer	C00.X-C96.X, Z85.XX, Z86.XX
Recent trauma	G89.11, S02.XXXX, S03.XXXX, S06.XXXX, S12.XXXX, S13.XXXX, S14.XXXX, S21.3XXX-S24.1XXX, S26.0XXX-S27.9XXXX, S31.0XXX-S62.3XXX
IV drug abuse	F11.XXX, F13.XXX, F14.XXX, F15.XXX
Neurologic impairment	G83.4
HIV	B20, Z21
Spinal infection	A17.81, G06.1, M46.2X-M46.4X
Major organ transplant	32850-32856, 33927-33930, 33933, 33935, 33940, 33944-33945, 44132-44137, 44715, 44720-44721, 47133, 47135, 47136, 47140-47147, 48160, 48550-48556 (CPT), S2053-S2055, S2060, S2061, S2152 (HCPCS)
Hospice	99377-99378 (CPT)

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