

Colon Cancer

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Overview

The colon cancer condition consists of two sections, part 1 and part 2. **Part 1 (Case ID 104800)** identifies all patients with colon cancer including patients with a history of colon cancer. **Part 2 (Case ID 200900)** identifies patients with a new diagnosis of colon cancer and addresses issues of treatment for new cases. Inclusion in part 1 is a requirement for inclusion in part 2.

Part 2: Colon Cancer as New Episode Case ID 200900

CP-I

9000001 Patient(s) newly diagnosed with colon cancer that had a full colonoscopy.

Patients who present with invasive colon cancer require a complete staging evaluation, including a full colonoscopy (1). Patients with a colonoscopy 60 days before through 60 days after the initial colon cancer diagnostic procedure claim were defined as adherent to this rule. Patients were excluded from this rule if they had a diagnosis consistent with metastatic colon cancer other than lymph node involvement, gastrointestinal perforation, or gastrointestinal obstruction. The parameters used to define adherence to this measure were determined by the consensus opinion of experts.

This rule will apply to patients with a new diagnosis of colon cancer. A patient was identified as having a new diagnosis of colon cancer when the following criteria were met: 1) a colon cancer diagnostic procedure, 2) an anterior clear window without a colon cancer encounter 45-365 days prior to the colon cancer diagnostic procedure claim (suggesting no previous diagnosis of colon cancer), and 3) an encounter for colon cancer during the time period 44 days before the colon cancer diagnostic procedure through 90 days after this procedure (confirming a diagnosis of colon cancer after the diagnostic procedure). A potential limitation of this measure is that it may identify a patient with recurrent colon cancer instead of a new diagnosis of colon cancer. Given limitations of claims data, it is otherwise difficult to clearly identify patients with a new diagnosis of colon cancer.

1. Engstrom P, Benson A III, et al. *NCCN Practice Guidelines in Oncology – v.2.2009. Colon Cancer*. © 2009 National Comprehensive Cancer Network, Inc. NCCN and NATIONAL COMPREHENSIVE CANCER NETWORK are registered trademarks of National Comprehensive Cancer Network, Inc. Available at: <http://www.nccn.org> Accessed May 18, 2009. To view the most recent and complete version of the guideline, go online to www.nccn.org