AAO13: Bell's Palsy: Inappropriate Use of Magnetic Resonance Imaging or Computed Tomography Scan (Inverse Measure)

High Priority: Yes; Appropriate Use

Percentage of patients age 16 years and older with a new onset diagnosis of Bell’s palsy within the past 3 months who had a magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) or a computed tomography scan (CT) of the internal auditory canal, head, neck or brain ordered for the primary diagnosis of Bell’s palsy.

Denominator:
All patients age 16 years and older with a diagnosis of new onset Bell’s palsy within the past 3 months.

Denominator Exclusions:
None

Denominator Exceptions:
Medical reason for ordering an MRI or CT scan of the internal auditory canal, head, neck or brain for the primary diagnosis of Bell’s palsy, including:
- Patient with diagnosis of Bell’s palsy more than 3 months prior to the date of the referral or performance of imaging with no signs of recovery.
- Patient with recurrent diagnosis of Bell’s palsy.
- Patient with paralysis limited to a specific branch, or branches, of the facial nerve.
- Patients with paralysis associated with other cranial nerve abnormalities, including olfactory nerve, glossopharyngeal nerve, vagus nerve, and hypoglossal nerve.
- Patient with other diagnosed neurological abnormalities, including simultaneous sudden hearing loss, tinnitus, and/or dizziness; stroke; tumor; seizures; extremity weakness; and/or extremity hypesthesia.

Numerator:
Patients with whom a MRI or CT scan of the internal auditory canal, head, neck, or brain was ordered for a primary diagnosis of Bell’s palsy.

Measure Classifications:
Measure Type: Process
National Quality Strategy (NQS) domain: Efficiency and Cost Reduction
Meaningful Measure Area: Appropriate Use of Healthcare
Calculation: 1st Performance Rate
Inverse measure: Yes
Continuous measure: No
Proportional measure: Yes
Ratio measure: No
Risk Adjusted measure: No

Empowering otolaryngologist–head and neck surgeons to deliver the best patient care
QCDR Measure Flow for:

AAO13 Bell’s Palsy: Inappropriate Use of Magnetic Resonance Imaging or Computed Tomography Scan (Inverse Measure)

INITIAL PATIENT POPULATION (IPP)

MEASURE DESCRIPTION

Percentage of patients age 16 years and older with a diagnosis of Bell’s palsy within the past 3 months who had a magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) or a computed tomography scan (CT) of the internal auditory canal, head, neck or brain ordered for the primary diagnosis of Bell’s palsy.

DENOMINATOR

*Denominator Exceptions:

MEDICAL REASONS FOR AN MRI OR CT SCAN

• Patient with diagnosis of Bell’s palsy more than 3 months prior to the date of the referral or performance of imaging with no signs of recovery.
• Patient with recurrent diagnosis of Bell’s palsy.
• Patient with paralysis limited to a specific branch, or branches, of the facial nerve.
• Patient with paralysis associated with other cranial nerve abnormalities, including olfactory nerve, glossopharyngeal nerve, vagus nerve, and hypoglossal nerve.
• Patient with other diagnosed neurological abnormalities, including simultaneous sudden hearing loss, tinnitus, and/or dizziness; stroke; tumor; seizures; extremity weakness; and/or extremity hypesthesia.

NUMERATOR

Was the patient seen by an eligible provider within the past 3 months?

YES

NO

Patient NOT included in IPP

Was the patient ≥ 16 years old?

YES

NO

INCLUDED in IPP — Continue to Denominator

Was the patient diagnosed with new onset (non-recurrent) Bell’s palsy?

NO

Patient not eligible for this measure

YES

Denominator Exception

Was there a medical reason that required an MRI or CT scan of the internal auditory canal, head, neck, or brain?

YES

INCLUDE in Denominator — Continue to Numerator

NO

Was the patient diagnosed with new onset (non-recurrent) Bell’s palsy?

NO

Measure NOT Met

YES

Measure Met

Was the MRI or CT scan completed within 3 months of the BP diagnosis?