AAO34: Dysphonia: Postoperative Laryngeal Examination

High Priority: No; N/A

Percentage of patients age 18 years and older who were diagnosed with new onset dysphonia within 2 months after a thyroidectomy who received or were referred for a laryngeal examination to examine vocal fold/cord mobility, and, if abnormal vocal fold mobility is identified, receive a plan of care for voice rehabilitation.

Denominator:
1. All patients 18 years and older diagnosed with new onset dysphonia within 2 months after a thyroidectomy.
2. All patients who received a laryngeal examination and identified with abnormal vocal fold mobility.

Dysphonia definition: Dysphonia is disorder characterized by harsh and raspy voice arising from or spreading to the larynx. For the purposes of this measure dysphonia is referring to a change or hoarseness in the patient’s voice.

Denominator Exclusions:
Exclude patients diagnosed with dysphonia or vocal fold paralysis prior to thyroidectomy and patients undergoing concurrent laryngectomy at the time of thyroidectomy.

Denominator Exceptions:
Patient refusal of laryngeal examination or plan of care for treatment.

Numerator:
1. Patients who received or were referred for a laryngeal examination to examine vocal fold/cord mobility. Laryngeal examination definition: examination by a qualified examiner utilizing flexible laryngoscopy, or stroboscopy to examine vocal fold/cord mobility.
2. Patients who received a plan of care for voice rehabilitation.

Plan of care for voice rehabilitation includes one of the following
• Voice and/or swallowing therapy or referral for voice and/or swallowing therapy to a speech-language pathologist OR
• Surgical therapy, including but not limited to:
  – Injection laryngoplasty
  – Framework procedures – operations to improve vocal fold mobility
  – Reinnervation – operation to improve vocal fold position OR
• Medical therapy

Measure Classifications:
Measure Type: Process
National Quality Strategy (NQS) domain: Effective Clinical Care
Meaningful Measure Area: Appropriate Use of Healthcare
Calculation: 1st Performance Rate
Inverse measure: No
Continuous measure: No
Proportional measure: Yes
Ratio measure: No
Risk Adjusted measure: No
QCDR Measure Flow for:
AAO34
Dysphonia: Postoperative Laryngeal Examination

**INITIAL PATIENT POPULATION (IPP)**

- **Measure Met**
- **Measure NOT Met**
- **Patient not eligible for this measure**

**DENOMINATOR**

- **Denominator**
- **Denominator Exclusion**
- **Patient not eligible for this measure**

**NUMERATOR**

- **Measure NOT Met**
- **Measure Met**

**MEASURE DESCRIPTION**
Percentage of patients age 18 years and older who were diagnosed with new onset dysphonia within 2 months after a thyroidectomy who received or were referred for a laryngeal examination to examine vocal fold/cord mobility, and, if abnormal vocal fold mobility is identified, receive a plan of care for voice rehabilitation.