**AAO31: Otitis Media with Effusion (OME): Avoidance of Inappropriate Use of Medications**

**High Priority:** Yes; Appropriate Use

*Percentage of patients age 2 months through 12 years with a diagnosis of otitis media with effusion who were not prescribed or recommended the use of steroids (either oral or intranasal), antimicrobials, antihistamines, or decongestants as therapy.*

**Denominator:**
Patients aged 2 months through 12 years with a diagnosis of otitis media with effusion. OME is defined as the presence of fluid in the middle ear without signs or symptoms of acute ear infections.

**Denominator Exclusions:**
None

**Denominator Exceptions:**
Medical reason for prescribing/recommending medications.

**Numerator:**
Patients who were NOT prescribed or recommended to receive any of the following: antihistamines, decongestants, systemic corticosteroids, topical intranasal corticosteroids, systemic antimicrobials.

**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: No

**Copyright:**

Limited proprietary coding is contained in the Measure specifications for convenience. Users of the proprietary code sets should obtain all necessary licenses from the owners of these code sets.

The Measures, while copyrighted, can be reproduced and distributed, without modification, for noncommercial purposes, e.g. use by health care providers in connection with their practices. Commercial use is defined as the sale, license, or distribution of the Measures for commercial gain, or incorporation of the Measures into a product or service that is sold, licensed or distributed for commercial gain.

Commercial uses of the Measures require a license agreement between the user and the American Academy of Otolaryngology – Head and Neck Surgery Foundation (AAO-HNSF).

Disclaimer: The Measures are not clinical guidelines, do not establish a standard of medical care, and have not been tested for all potential applications.

THE MEASURES AND SPECIFICATIONS ARE PROVIDED “AS IS” WITHOUT WARRANTY OF ANY KIND. Neither the AAO-HNSF nor its members shall be responsible for any use of the Measures. The AAO-HNSF and its members disclaim

Empowering otolaryngologist–head and neck surgeons to deliver the best patient care
all liability for use or accuracy of any Current Procedural Terminology (CPT®) or other coding contained in the specifications.

Empowering otolaryngologist–head and neck surgeons to deliver the best patient care
QCDR Measure Flow for:
AA031 Otitis Media with Effusion (OME): Avoidance of Inappropriate Use of Medications

INITIAL PATIENT POPULATION (IPP)

**MEASURE DESCRIPTION**
Percentage of patients age 2 months through 12 years with a diagnosis of otitis media with effusion who were NOT prescribed or recommended the use of steroids (either oral or intranasal), antimicrobials, antihistamines, or decongestants as therapy.

- **Was the patient seen by an eligible provider in the calendar year?**
  - **NO**
    - **Patient NOT included in IPP**
  - **YES**
    - **Was the patient 2 months to 12 years old?**
      - **NO**
        - **Patient NOT included in IPP**
      - **YES**
        - **INCLUDED in IPP — Continue to Denominator**

DENOMINATOR

- **Was the patient diagnosed with OME?**
  - **NO**
    - **Patient not eligible for this measure**
  - **YES**
    - **Was there a medical reason other than OME for prescribing antihistamines, decongestants, systemic corticosteroids, topical intranasal corticosteroids, or systemic antimicrobials?**
      - **YES**
        - **Denominator Exception**
      - **NO**
        - **INCLUDE in Denominator — Continue to Numerator**

NUMERATOR

- **Was the patient prescribed or recommended to receive antihistamines?**
  - **OR**
    - **Was the patient prescribed or recommended to receive decongestants?**
      - **OR**
        - **Was the patient prescribed or recommended to receive systemic corticosteroids?**
          - **OR**
            - **Was the patient prescribed or recommended to receive topical intranasal corticosteroids?**
              - **OR**
                - **Was the patient prescribed or recommended to receive systemic antimicrobials?**
                  - **YES**
                    - **Measure NOT Met**
                  - **NO**
                    - **Measure Met**