



## **AAO 13: Inappropriate Use of Magnetic Resonance Imaging or Computed Tomography Scan for Bell's Palsy (Inverse Measure)**

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.

**Quality Domain:** Patient Safety

The measure was designed to reduced unnecessary, costly and potentially harmful variations in the evaluation and management of patient's with Bell's palsy from unnecessary imaging.

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

**Denominator Exclusions:** None

**Denominator Exceptions:** Medical reason for ordering a MRI or CT scan of the internal auditory canal, head, neck or brain for the primary diagnosis of Bell's palsy (e.g. Patient with recurrent paralysis same side; paralysis of isolated branches of facial nerve, paralysis associated with other cranial nerve abnormalities, no sign of recovery within 3 months of diagnosis of Bell's palsy; patient has other diagnosed neurological abnormalities; imaging done by other physician other than one completing the measure).

**Numerator:** Patients who 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 Type:** Process, Inverse, High Priority

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