

Otitis Media with Effusion (OME): Systemic Corticosteroids – Avoidance of Inappropriate Use

Percentage of patients aged 2 months through 12 years with a diagnosis of OME who were not prescribed systemic corticosteroids

NQF 0656/AAO 41

Reporting Option: N/A

Quality Domain: Effective Clinical Care

Instructions: N/A

Denominator: All patients aged 2 months through 12 years with a diagnosis of OME

Denominator Criteria (Eligible Cases):

- Patients aged 2 months through 12 years on date of encounter
AND
- Diagnosis of OME (ICD-09): 381.01, 381.02, 381.04, 381.05, 381.06, 381.10, 381.19, 381.20, 381.29, 381.3, 381.4, 381.00 (ICD-10-CM): H65.00, H65.01, H65.02, H65.03, H65.04, H65.05, H65.06, H65.07, H65.20, H65.21, H65.22, H65.111, H65.112, H65.113, H65.114, H65.115, H65.116, H65.117, H65.119, H65.191, H65.192, H65.193, H65.194, H65.195, H65.196, H65.197, H65.199, H65.23, H65.30, H65.31, H65.32, H65.33, H65.411, H65.412, H65.413, H65.419, H65.491, H65.492, H65.493, H65.499, H65.90, H65.91, H65.92, H65.93
AND
- Patient encounter during the reporting period (CPT)

Denominator Exceptions: Documentation of medical reason(s) for prescribing systemic corticosteroids

Numerator: Patients who were not prescribed systemic corticosteroids

Numerator Quality-Data Coding Options for Reporting Satisfactorily:

Performance Met: Patients who were not prescribed systemic corticosteroids
OR

Medical Performance Exception: Documentation of medical reason(s) for prescribing systemic corticosteroids
OR

Performance Not Met: Patients who were prescribed systemic corticosteroids, reason not otherwise specified

Rationale: OME usually resolves spontaneously with indications for therapy only if the condition is persistent and clinically significant benefits can be achieved. Systemic antimicrobials have no proven long-term effectiveness and have potential adverse effects.

The purpose of the corresponding guideline statement is to reduce ineffective and potentially harmful medical interventions in OME when there is no long-term benefit to be gained in the vast majority of cases. Medications have
Empowering otolaryngologist–head and neck surgeons to deliver the best patient care

long been used to treat OME, with the dual goals of improving QOL and avoiding more invasive surgical interventions. Both the 1994 guidelines and the 2004 guidelines determined that the weight of evidence did not support the routine use of steroids (either oral or intranasal), antimicrobials, antihistamines, or decongestants as therapy for OME.

Clinical Recommendation Statements: Clinicians should recommend against using intranasal steroids or systemic steroids for treating OME. *Strong recommendation against based on systematic review of RCTs and preponderance of harm over benefit. [Aggregate evidence quality – Grade A] (AAO-HNSF, 2016)*

Copyright: 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, 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 PCPI® Foundation (PCPI®); or the American Academy of Otolaryngology – Head and Neck Surgery (AAO-HNS); or the American Academy of Otolaryngology – Head and Neck Surgery Foundation (AAO-HNS Foundation). Neither AAO-HNS, nor AAO-HNS Foundation, nor the American Medical Association (AMA), nor the AMA-convened Physician Consortium for Performance Improvement® (AMA-PCPI), now known as the PCPI, nor their members shall be responsible for any use of the Measures.

The AMA’s and AMA-PCPI’s significant past efforts and contributions to the development and updating of the Measures is acknowledged. AAO-HNS and AAO-HNS Foundation are solely responsible for the review and enhancement (“Maintenance”) of the Measures as of August 14, 2014.

AAO-HNS and AAO-HNS Foundation encourage use of the Measures by other health care professionals, where appropriate.

THE MEASURES AND SPECIFICATIONS ARE PROVIDED “AS IS” WITHOUT WARRANTY OF ANY KIND.

© 2017 PCPI® Foundation and American Academy of Otolaryngology – Head and Neck Surgery and American Academy of Otolaryngology – Head and Neck Surgery and American Academy of Otolaryngology – Head and Neck Surgery Foundation. All Rights Reserved.

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. AAO-HNS, AAO-HNS Foundation, the AMA, the PCPI and its members and former members of the AMA-PCPI disclaim all liability for use or accuracy of any Current Procedural Terminology (CPT®) or other coding contained in the specifications.

CPT® contained in the Measures specifications is copyright 2004-2017 American Medical Association. LOINC® copyright 2004-2017 Regenstrief Institute, Inc. SNOMED CLINICAL TERMS (SNOMED CT®) copyright 2004-2017 The International Health Terminology Standards Development Organization (IHTSDO). ICD-10 is copyright 2017 World Health Organization. All Rights Reserved.