

## Appropriate Testing for Pharyngitis (CMS146)

The following is for educational purposes only and is not intended to be clinical or legal advice. The information provided in the Measure Details section is based on specification published by CMS at <https://ecqi.healthit.gov/ecqm/ec/2023/cms146v11>

### Measure Details

#### Description \*

The percentage of episodes for patients 3 years and older with a diagnosis of pharyngitis that resulted in an antibiotic **dispensing-event order** and a group A streptococcus (strep) test **in the seven-day period from three days prior to the episode date through three days after the episode date**

#### Initial Population

Outpatient, telephone, online assessment (i.e. e-visit or virtual check-in), observation, or emergency department (ED) visits with a diagnosis of pharyngitis **or tonsillitis** and an antibiotic **dispensing-event order** on or within 3 days after the episode date among patients 3 years or older

#### Denominator

Equals Initial Population

#### Numerator

A group A streptococcus test in the seven-day period from three days prior to the episode date through three days after the episode date

#### Denominator Exclusion

Exclude episodes where the patient is taking antibiotics in the 30 days prior to the episode date or had an active prescription on the episode date. Exclude episodes where the patient had a comorbid condition during the 12 months prior to or on the episode date. Exclude episodes when the patient had hospice care for any part of the measurement period. Exclude episodes where the patient had a competing diagnosis on or within three days after the episode date

#### Numerator Exclusion

NA

### Overview

What is Documented	When is it Documented	Where in QMER
Qualifying Encounter	During Measurement Period (2023)	Coded SOAP Note
Diagnosis or Pharyngitis or Tonsillitis	During the Measurement Period (2023)	DxCPT Module
Antibiotic Order	On or within 3 days after the episode date	RxMed Module
Group Strep A Test	In the 7-day period from 3 days prior to the episode date through 3 days after the episode date	Orders & Results

Exclusions/Exceptions	Where in QEMR
Patient is taking antibiotics in the 30 days prior to the episode date or had an active antibiotic prescription on the episode date	RxMed Module
Patient had a comorbid condition during the 12 months prior to or on the episode date	History Module
Patient had hospice care for any part of the measurement period	History Module
Competing diagnosis on or within three days after the episode date	DxCPT Module

2022 to 2023 Changes
NA

## Set Up

All codification shown is an example for incrementation, for a full list of accepted codes please visit [Value Set Authority Center](#).

### Qualifying Encounter

No set up required.

### Diagnosis of Pharyngitis/Tonsillitis

No set up required

### Strep A Test

Screening results are received via Lab Interface, the resulting lab should be sending LOINC in the HL7 message. If resulted internally (in office lab test), build the appropriate result profile in **Edit > Orders & Results**, adding appropriate LOINC (from lab test kit).

#### Building Internal Order

1. Log into **QEMR** > Navigate to **Edit > Order & Results Setup > New** hot button
2. Complete the Test Master screen as shown below > Click **Save & Close**

When searching for the LOINC Order Code if it is not there you will need to create by following the steps listed here:

- Click the **Add LOINC Order Code** icon
- Complete the LOINC Order Code Master as shown below
  - **Code:** 11268-0 (See Table 1 for full list of applicable LOINC Codes)
  - **Name:** Streptococcus pyogenes [Presenin Throat by Organism specific culture
- Click **Save & Close** button

Table 1

Code	Description
11268-0	Streptococcus pyogenes [Presence] in Throat by Organism specific culture
17656-0	Streptococcus pyogenes [Presence] in Specimen by Organism specific culture
17898-8	Bacteria identified in Throat by Aerobe culture
18481-2	Streptococcus pyogenes Ag [Presence] in Throat
31971-5	Streptococcus pyogenes Ag [Presence] in Specimen
49610-9	Streptococcus pyogenes DNA [Identifier] in Specimen by NAA with probe detection
5036-9	Streptococcus pyogenes rRNA [Presence] in Specimen by Probe
60489-2	Streptococcus pyogenes DNA [Presence] in Throat by NAA with probe detection
626-2	Bacteria identified in Throat by Culture
6557-3	Streptococcus pyogenes Ag [Presence] in Throat by Immunofluorescence
6558-1	Streptococcus pyogenes Ag [Presence] in Specimen by Immunoassay
6559-9	Streptococcus pyogenes Ag [Presence] in Specimen by Immunofluorescence
68954-7	Streptococcus pyogenes rRNA [Presence] in Throat by Probe
78012-2	Streptococcus pyogenes Ag [Presence] in Throat by Rapid immunoassay
96331-4	Streptococcus pyogenes DNA [NCncRange] in Lower respiratory specimen Qualitative by NAA with non-probe detection

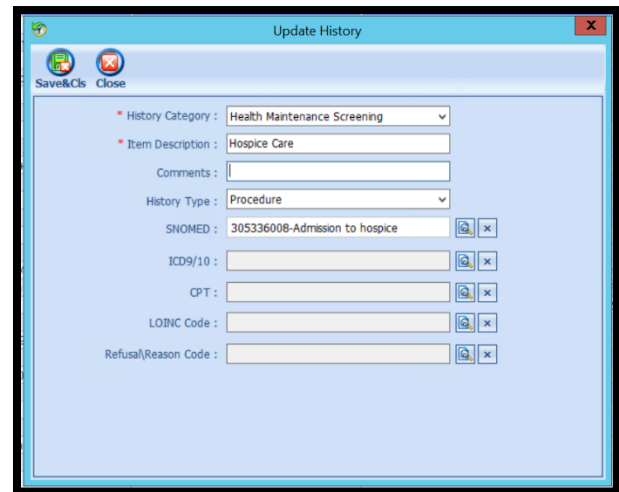
## Antibiotic Order

No set up required

## Building Hospice Care Exclusion

Build the history items below:

1. Log into QEMR > Navigate to **Edit > History**
2. Highlight **Health Maintenance Screening History Category** list on left side bar
3. Click **New** hot button
4. **Complete the Update History** Screen as seen below
5. Click **Save & Close** hot button



## Workflow

### Qualifying Encounter

Following standard office workflow, document patient visit(s) via SOAP notes and code with CPT and diagnosis codes using either DxCPT, SmartDx or Smart CPT modules.

## Document Pharyngitis/Tonsillitis Diagnosis

Dx and CPT must be associated to the visit during the Exam Note for the patient to count on the Quality Measures Dashboard. This can be done via Dx/CPT, SmartDx or SmartCPT.

Code	Description
J02.0	Streptococcal pharyngitis
J02.8	Acute pharyngitis due to other specified organisms
J02.9	Acute pharyngitis, unspecified
J03.00	Acute streptococcal tonsillitis, unspecified
J03.01	Acute recurrent streptococcal tonsillitis
J03.80	Acute tonsillitis due to other specified organisms
J03.81	Acute recurrent tonsillitis due to other specified organisms
J03.90	Acute tonsillitis, unspecified
J03.91	Acute recurrent tonsillitis, unspecified

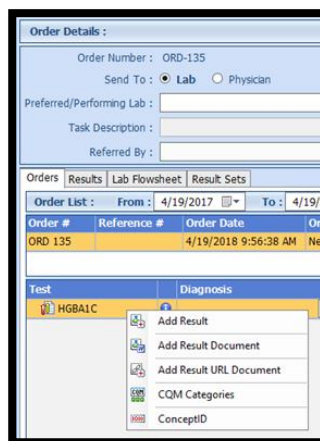
## Strep A Test

After receiving the test results via scanned documents or received fax you must associate it with the order or manually enter the numerical results if testing was done in-house.

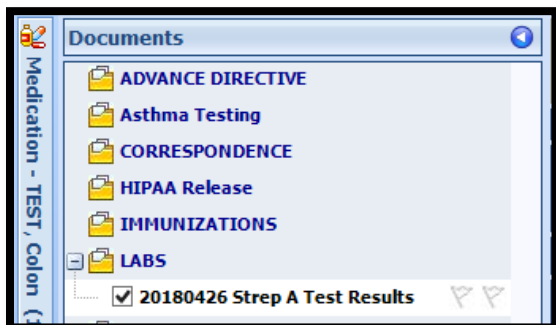
### Adding Scanned Results

To associate a document to the test results:

1. Navigate to **Orders & Results > Orders Tab**
2. Right-click on the test you would like to add the results to
3. Click **Add Results Document**



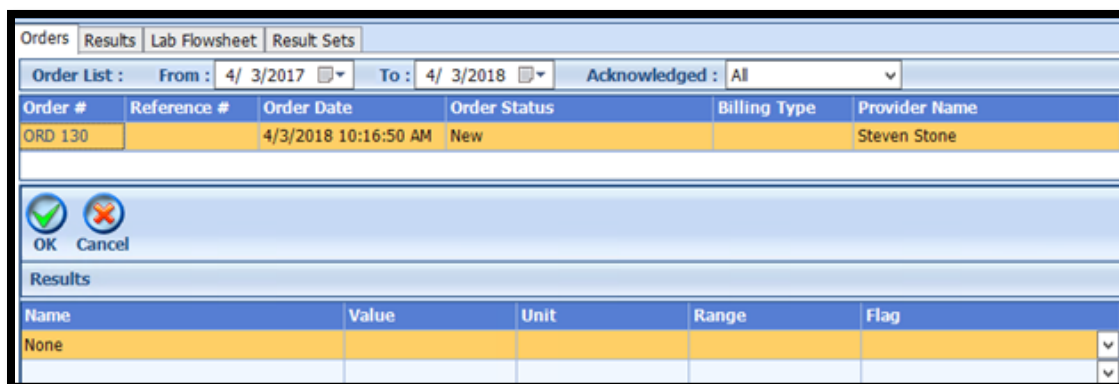
4. You will be brought to the **Scan Documents** screen
  - a. Place a **check box** in the document you would like to associate
  - b. Click **Save** hot button



### Adding Value Results to Order

To manually document the test results:

1. Navigate to **Orders & Results > Orders Tab**
2. Right-click on the test you would like to add the results to
3. Click **Add Results**
4. Enter test results in **Value** field > Click **Save & Close** hot button



### Antibiotic Order

If the patient has tested positive for Group A Strep appropriate antibiotics to be prescribed via the **RxMeds** module (See [Value Set Authority Center](#) for full list of applicable antibiotics). Prescribe the patient antibiotics per standard office workflow documenting in **New Prescription** field in **Rx-Meds** within 3 days of patients visit.

### Documenting Hospice Status

To document smoking status, follow steps below:

1. Navigate to **History Module > Health Maintenance Screening** category
  - a. Double-click **Hospice Care**
  - b. Enter **Occur Date**

Category	Item	Comments	Smoking Status	Active	Occur Date	Date Entered	Source
Health Maintenance Screening	Hospice Care				01/19/2022	1/19/2022 9:21 AM	gloEMR

### Incrementing Details

#### Occur Dates

To increment ANY measure using the History Module the Occur Dater MUST be documented using appropriate date based upon Measure Description.

#### Exam Coding

If exam notes (Past Exams) are not coded with Diagnosis Code and CPT code measures will not increment.

#### Measure Specific Codes

The codification shown in this document are examples of qualifying documentation. To see a full list please visit [Value Set Authority Center](#).

## CMS Guidance \*

This is an episode of care measure that examines all eligible episodes for the patient during the measurement period. The intent is to determine whether antibiotics are being ordered appropriately. Antibiotics should only be ordered if a strep test has been performed to confirm a bacterial infection. Antibiotics should not be ordered for viral infections. Antibiotics should be ordered on the episode date through 3 days after the episode date.

This [eCQM](#) is an episode-based measure. An episode is defined as each eligible encounter for patients aged 3 years and older with a diagnosis of pharyngitis that resulted in an antibiotic order during the measurement period.