

Quality ID #457 (CBE 0216): Percentage of Patients who Died from Cancer Admitted to Hospice for Less than 3 Days (lower score – better)

2025 COLLECTION TYPE:

MIPS CLINICAL QUALITY MEASURES (COMS)

MEASURE TYPE:

Process – High Priority

DESCRIPTION:

Percentage of patients who died from cancer, and admitted to hospice and spent less than 3 days there.

INSTRUCTIONS:

This measure is to be submitted a minimum of **once per performance period** for patients who died of cancer during the measurement year. It is anticipated that Merit-based Incentive Payment System (MIPS) eligible clinicians who provide services for patients with the diagnosis of cancer will submit this measure.

Measure Submission Type:

Measure data may be submitted by individual MIPS eligible clinicians, groups, or third-party intermediaries. The listed denominator criteria are used to identify the intended patient population. The numerator options included in this specification are used to submit the quality actions as allowed by the measure. The quality data codes listed do not need to be submitted by MIPS eligible clinicians, groups, or third-party intermediaries that utilize this modality for submissions; however, these codes may be submitted for those third-party intermediaries that utilize Medicare Part B claims data. For more information regarding Application Programming Interface (API), please refer to the Quality Payment Program (QPP) website.

DENOMINATOR:

Patients who died from cancer who were admitted to hospice

Denominator Criteria (Eligible Cases):

Diagnosis of cancer (ICD-10-CM): C00.0, C00.1, C00.2, C00.3, C00.4, C00.5, C00.6, C00.8, C00.9, C01, C02.0, C02.1, C02.2, C02.3, C02.4, C02.8, C02.9, C03.0, C03.1, C03.9, C04.0, C04.1, C04.8, C04.9, C05.0, C05.1, C05.2, C05.8, C05.9, C06.0, C06.1, C06.2, C06.80, C06.89, C06.9, C07, C08.0, C08.1, C08.9, C09.0, C09.1, C09.8, C09.9, C10.0, C10.1, C10.2, C10.3, C10.4, C10.8, C10.9, C11.0, C11.1, C11.2, C11.3, C11.8, C11.9, C12, C13.0, C13.1, C13.2, C13.8, C13.9, C14.0, C14.2, C14.8, C15.3, C15.4, C15.5, C15.8, C15.9, C16.0, C16.1, C16.2, C16.3, C16.4, C16.5, C16.6, C16.8, C16.9, C17.0, C17.1, C17.2, C17.3, C17.8, C17.9, C18.0, C18.1, C18.2, C18.3, C18.4, C18.5, C18.6, C18.7, C18.8, C18.9, C19, C20, C21.0, C21.1, C21.2, C21.8, C22.0, C22.1, C22.2, C22.3, C22.4, C22.7, C22.8, C22.9, C23, C24.0, C24.1, C24.8, C24.9, C25.0, C25.1, C25.2, C25.3, C25.4, C25.7, C25.8, C25.9, C26.0, C26.1, C26.9, C30.0, C30.1, C31.0, C31.1, C31.2, C31.3, C31.8, C31.9, C32.0, C32.1, C32.2, C32.3, C32.8, C32.9, C33, C34.00, C34.01, C34.02, C34.10, C34.11, C34.12, C34.2, C34.30, C34.31, C34.32, C34.80, C34.81, C34.82, C34.90, C34.91, C34.92, C37, C38.0, C38.1, C38.2, C38.3, C38.4, C38.8, C39.0, C39.9, C40.00, C40.01, C40.02, C40.10, C40.11, C40.12, C40.20, C40.21, C40.22, C40.30, C40.31, C40.32, C40.80, C40.81, C40.82, C40.90, C40.91, C40.92, C41.0, C41.1, C41.2, C41.3, C41.4, C41.9, C43.0, C43.10, C43.111, C43.112, C43.121, C43.122, C43.20, C43.21, C43.22, C43.30, C43.31, C43.39, C43.4, C43.51, C43.52, C43.59, C43.60, C43.61, C43.62, C43.70, C43.71, C43.72, C43.8, C43.9, C44.00, C44.01, C44.02, C44.09, C44.101, C44.1021, C44.1022, C44.1091, C44.1092, C44.111, C44.1121, C44.1122, C44.1191, C44.1192, C44.121, C44.1221, C44.1222, C44.1291, C44.1292, C44.131, C44.1321, C44.1322, C44.1391, C44.1392, C44.191, C44.1921, C44.1922, C44.1991, C44.1992, C44.201, C44.202, C44.209, C44.211, C44.212, C44.219, C44.221, C44.222, C44.229, C44.291, C44.292, C44.299, C44.300, C44.301, C44.309, C44.310, C44.311, C44.319, C44.320, C44.321, C44.329, C44.390, C44.391, C44.399, C44.40, C44.41, C44.42, C44.49, C44.500, C44.501, C44.509, C44.510, C44.511,

C44.519, C44.520, C44.521, C44.529, C44.590, C44.591, C44.599, C44.601, C44.602, C44.609, C44.611, C44.612, C44.619, C44.621, C44.622, C44.629, C44.691, C44.692, C44.699, C44.701, C44.702, C44.709, C44.711, C44.712, C44.719, C44.721, C44.722, C44.729, C44.791, C44.792, C44.799, C44.80, C44.81, C44.82, C44.89, C44.90, C44.91, C44.92, C44.99, C45.0, C45.1, C45.2, C45.7, C45.9, C46.0, C46.1, C46.2, C46.3, C46.4, C46.50, C46.51, C46.52, C46.7, C46.9, C47.0, C47.10, C47.11, C47.12, C47.20, C47.21, C47.22, C47.3, C47.4, C47.5, C47.6, C47.8, C47.9, C48.0, C48.1, C48.2, C48.8, C49.0, C49.10, C49.11, C49.12, C49.20, C49.21, C49.22, C49.3, C49.A0, C49.A1, C49.A2, C49.A3, C49.A4, C49.A5, C49.A9, C49.4, C49.5, C49.6, C49.8, C49.9, C4A.0, C4A.10, C4A.111, C4A.112, C4A.121, C4A.122, C4A.20, C4A.21, C4A.22, C4A.30, C4A.31, C4A.39, C4A.4, C4A.51, C4A.52, C4A.59, C4A.60, C4A.61, C4A.62, C4A.70, C4A.71, C4A.72, C4A.8, C4A.9, C50.011, C50.012, C50.019, C50.021, C50.022, C50.029, C50.111, C50.112, C50.119, C50.121, C50.122, C50.129, C50.211, C50.212, C50.219, C50.221, C50.222, C50.229, C50.311, C50.312, C50.319, C50.321, C50.322, C50.329, C50.411, C50.412, C50.419, C50.421, C50.422, C50.429, C50.511, C50.512, C50.519, C50.521, C50.522, C50.529, C50.611, C50.612, C50.619, C50.621, C50.622, C50.629, C50.811, C50.812, C50.819, C50.821, C50.822, C50.829, C50.911, C50.912, C50.919, C50.921, C50.922, C50.929, C51.0, C51.1, C51.2, C51.8, C51.9, C52, C53.0, C53.1, C53.8, C53.9, C54.0, C54.1, C54.2, C54.3, C54.8, C54.9, C55, C56.1, C56.2, C56.3, C56.9, C57.00, C57.01, C57.02, C57.10, C57.11, C57.12, C57.20, C57.21, C57.22, C57.3, C57.4, C57.7, C57.8, C57.9, C58, C60.0, C60.1, C60.2, C60.8, C60.9, C61, C62.00, C62.01, C62.02, C62.10, C62.11, C62.12, C62.90, C62.91, C62.92, C63.00, C63.01, C63.02, C63.10, C63.11, C63.12, C63.2, C63.7, C63.8, C63.9, C64.1, C64.2, C64.9, C65.1, C65.2, C65.9, C66.1, C66.2, C66.9, C67.0, C67.1, C67.2, C67.3, C67.4, C67.5, C67.6, C67.7, C67.8, C67.9, C68.0, 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AND

At least two patient encounters during performance period (CPT): 99202, 99203, 99204, 99205, 99212, 99213, 99214, 99215

WITHOUT

Telehealth Modifier (including but not limited to): GQ, GT, POS 02, POS 10

AND

Patient enrolled in hospice: G9858

AND

Patients who died from cancer: G9859

NUMERATOR:

Patients who died from cancer and spent fewer than three days in hospice

Numerator Instructions:

INVERSE MEASURE- A lower calculated performance rate for this measure indicates better clinical care or control. The "Performance Not Met" numerator option for this measure is the representation of the better clinical quality or control. Submitting that numerator option will produce a performance rate that trends closer to 0%, as quality increases. For inverse measures, a rate of 100% means all of the denominator eligible patients did not receive the appropriate care or were not in proper control.

Numerator Options:

OR

Performance Met:

Patient spent less than three days in hospice care (**G9860**)

Performance Not Met:

Patient spent greater than or equal to three days in hospice care (**G9861**)

RATIONALE:

The Institute of Medicine's report, Dying in America, advocates for measures to improve the quality and sustainability of end-

of-life care, urging the federal government to “require public reporting on quality measures, outcomes, and costs regarding care near the end-of-life” (Daly et al., 2016). Hospice care is a form of palliative care for patients with a limited life expectancy of six months or less (according to Medicare hospice coverage criteria) who want to focus on quality of life and comfort rather than life-prolonging care. Most insurance plans provide coverage for hospice (ICSI Guideline, 2020).

In 2021 the median length of hospice stay among Medicare beneficiaries was 17 days (MedPAC, 2023). Approximately 28% of hospice patients died or were discharged within 7 days of admission to hospice care (NCCN Guidelines, 2023). This is despite the fact that the hospice benefit is at least six months or longer if needed. This short length of stay means that the patient, family, and care team have limited time to get a plan of care in place before death, and that the focus tends to be more on the care of the imminently dying patient than living life to the fullest before the final decline in function. Early referral to hospice increases the likelihood that pain and other symptoms will be managed more aggressively and therefore there will be less anxiety and distress at the end of life (ICSI Guideline, 2020).

One retrospective study of more than 64,000 patients with cancer who were admitted to hospice found that over 16% of those patients were only enrolled in the last three days of life or less (O’Connor, 2015). The rate of patients who do not have a hospice referral prior to death continues to be higher than desired with one study reporting that more than 30% of patients were not referred and of those patients, only 7% had a documented discussion on the option of palliative care (O’Connor, 2015).

Patients enrolled in hospice experience increased survival times along with a reduction in resource use such as aggressive end of life care and hospital admissions; benefits that increased the longer patients are enrolled in hospice (Lee, 2015; Langton, 2014). Patients who use hospice, compared with those who do not use hospice, have markedly improved symptoms, less caregiver distress, reduced costs of approximately \$8,700 per Medicare beneficiary, and, according to two published reports, actually live longer (ASCO Guideline, 2017).

CLINICAL RECOMMENDATION STATEMENTS:

The National Comprehensive Cancer Network (NCCN) states the following in its Palliative Care guideline:

“Patients with months to weeks to live should be provided with guidance regarding the anticipated course of the disease. Physicians should reassess prognostic awareness and goals of therapy. As functional status worsens, these patients may become more concerned about the side effects of cancer-directed treatment and consider focusing their care on maintaining quality of life. The option of discontinuing anticancer treatment not directly addressing a symptom complex and initiating goal-directed supportive care should be discussed, including referral to specialized palliative care services or hospice.”

In general, patients with weeks to days to live (eg, dying patients) and comfort-oriented goals should discontinue all treatments not directly contributing to patient comfort. Intensive palliative care focusing on symptom management should be provided in addition to preparation for the dying process. Referral for hospice care should be placed, if not already done” (NCCN, 2023).

ASCO updated the 2012 ASCO Provisional Clinical Opinion (PCO) on the integration of palliative care into standard oncology care and transitioned the content into a guideline recommendation.

Patients with advanced cancer, inpatients and outpatients, should receive dedicated palliative care services early in the disease course and concurrent with active treatment. Referring patients to interdisciplinary palliative care teams is optimal, and services may complement existing programs. Providers may refer caregivers of patients with early or advanced cancer to palliative care services (Ferrel et al., 2017).

References:

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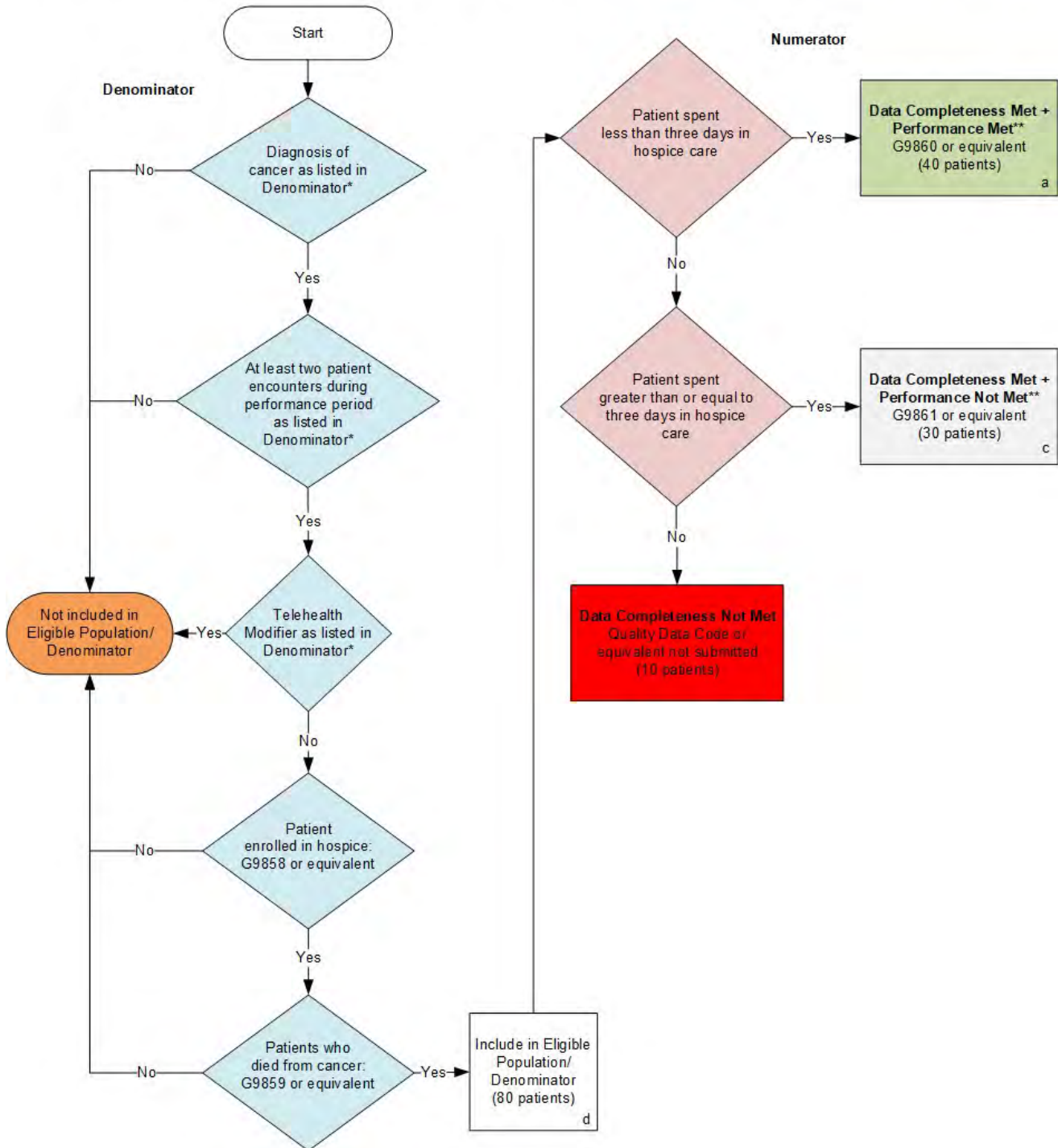
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**2025 Clinical Quality Measure Flow for Quality ID #457 (CBE 0216):
Percentage of Patients who Died from Cancer Admitted to Hospice
for Less than 3 Days (lower score – better)**

Disclaimer: Refer to the measure specification for specific coding and instructions to submit this measure.



SAMPLE CALCULATIONS

Data Completeness=

$$\frac{\text{Performance Met (a=40 patients)} + \text{Performance Not Met (c=30 patients)}}{\text{Eligible Population / Denominator (d=80 patients)}} = \frac{70 \text{ patients}}{80 \text{ patients}} = 87.50\%$$

Performance Rate=

$$\frac{\text{Performance Met (a=40 patients)}}{\text{Data Completeness Numerator (70 patients)}} = \frac{40 \text{ patients}}{70 \text{ patients}} = 57.14\%$$

*See the posted measure specification for specific coding and instructions to submit this measure.

**A lower calculated performance rate for this measure indicates better clinical care or control.

NOTE: Submission Frequency: Patient-Periodic

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2025 Clinical Quality Measure Flow Narrative for Quality ID #457 (CBE 0216):
Percentage of Patients who Died from Cancer Admitted to Hospice for Less than 3 Days
(lower score – better)

Disclaimer: Refer to the measure specification for specific coding and instructions to submit this measure.

1. Start with Denominator
2. Check *Diagnosis of cancer as listed in Denominator**:
 - a. If *Diagnosis of cancer as listed in Denominator** equals No, do not include in *Eligible Population/Denominator*. Stop processing.
 - b. If *Diagnosis of cancer as listed in Denominator** equals Yes, proceed to check *At least two patient encounters during performance period as listed in Denominator**.
3. Check *At least two patient encounters during performance period as listed in Denominator**:
 - a. If *At least two patient encounters during performance period as listed in Denominator** equals No, do not include in *Eligible Population/Denominator*. Stop processing.
 - b. If *At least two patient encounters during performance period as listed in Denominator** equals Yes, proceed to check *Telehealth Modifier as listed in Denominator**.
4. Check *Telehealth Modifier as listed in Denominator**:
 - a. If *Telehealth Modifier as listed in Denominator** equals Yes, do not include in *Eligible Population/Denominator*. Stop processing.
 - b. If *Telehealth Modifier as listed in Denominator** equals No, proceed to check *Patient enrolled in hospice*.
5. Check *Patient enrolled in hospice*:
 - a. If *Patient enrolled in hospice* equals No, do not include in *Eligible Population/Denominator*. Stop processing.
 - b. If *Patient enrolled in hospice* equals Yes, proceed to check *Patients who died from cancer*.
6. Check *Patients who died from cancer*:
 - a. If *Patients who died from cancer* equals No, do not include in *Eligible Population/Denominator*. Stop processing.
 - b. If *Patients who died from cancer* equals Yes, include in *Eligible Population/Denominator*.
7. Denominator Population:
 - Denominator Population is all Eligible Patients in the Denominator. Denominator is represented as Denominator in the Sample Calculation listed at the end of this document. Letter d equals 80 patients in the Sample Calculation.
8. Start Numerator
9. Check *Patient spent less than three days in hospice care*:

- a. If *Patient spent less than three days in hospice care* equals Yes, include in *Data Completeness Met and Performance Met***.
 - *Data Completeness Met and Performance Met*** letter is represented in the Data Completeness and Performance Rate in the Sample Calculation listed at the end of this document. Letter a equals 40 patients in the Sample Calculation.
 - b. If *Patient spent less than three days in hospice care* equals No, proceed to check *Patient spent greater than or equal to three days in hospice care*.
10. Check *Patient spent greater than or equal to three days in hospice care*:
- a. If *Patient spent greater than or equal to three days in hospice care* equals Yes, include in *Data Completeness Met and Performance Not Met***.
 - *Data Completeness Met and Performance Not Met*** letter is represented in the Data Completeness in the Sample Calculation listed at the end of this document. Letter c equals 30 patients in the Sample Calculation.
 - b. If *Patient spent greater than or equal to three days in hospice care* equals No, proceed to check *Data Completeness Not Met*.
11. Check *Data Completeness Not Met*:
- If *Data Completeness Not Met*, the Quality Data Code or equivalent was not submitted. 10 patients have been subtracted from the Data Completeness Numerator in the Sample Calculation.

Sample Calculations:

Data Completeness equals Performance Met (a equals 40 patients) plus Performance Not Met (c equals 30 patients) divided by Eligible Population/Denominator (d equals 80 patients). All equals 70 patients divided by 80 patients. All equals 87.50 percent.

Performance Rate equals Performance Met (a equals 40 patients) divided by Data Completeness Numerator (70 patients). All equals 40 patients divided by 70 patients. All equals 57.14 percent.

*See the posted measure specification for specific coding and instructions to submit this measure.

**A lower calculated performance rate for this measure indicates better clinical care or

control. NOTE: Submission Frequency: Patient-Periodic

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