

Date: May 6, 2025

To: FHCP Primary Care Providers, Sports Medicine, Doc-On-Demand and EHCC Providers

From: FHCP Quality Management Department

Re: Quality Measure AAB-Appropriate Use of Antibiotics for Acute Bronchitis/Bronchiolitis

HEDIS® (**H**ealthcare **E**ffectiveness **D**ata & **I**nformation **S**et) is a nationally recognized set of healthcare quality measures. Meeting these measures is a crucial factor in our accreditation with the National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA).

Avoidance of Antibiotic Treatment for Acute Bronchitis/Bronchiolitis (AAB) is a measure that focuses on reducing the **inappropriate use of antibiotics** for **viral infections**. The measure evaluates the percentage of episodes for members 3 months of age and older who were given a diagnosis of acute bronchitis / bronchiolitis and were dispensed an antibiotic prescription.

ICD-10 AAB codes for which an antibiotic is **not** recommended include: **J20.8 Acute bronchitis due to other specif. organisms; J20.9 Acute bronchitis, unspecified; and J21.9 Acute bronchiolitis, unspecified.**

The intent of this measure is to improve patient care by **avoiding unnecessary antibiotic use**, which can lead to antibiotic resistance and other negative health outcomes.

Please see the attachment for additional information. If you have any questions, please contact Brittany Teixeira, LPN, Quality Improvement Coordinator at (386) 676-7100, Ext. 7435, or email: QualityManagement@fhcp.com.

Trigger Codes for AAB - Codes that should NOT be used when prescribing an antibiotic.

Description	ICD-10 Code
Acute bronchitis due to other specif. organisms	J20.8
Acute bronchitis, unspecified	J20.9
Acute bronchiolitis, unspecified	J21.9

Alternative non-trigger codes - Codes that CAN be used to prescribe an antibiotic.

Description	ICD-10 Code
Other Spec. diseases of upper resp. tract	J39.8
Disease of Upper Respiratory Tract. Unspec.	J39.9
Other acute sinusitis	J01.80

**Not a complete list of alternative codes*

Please note that antibiotics should not be prescribed with trigger codes: **J20.8 Acute bronchitis due to other specif. organisms**; **J20.9 Acute bronchitis, unspecified** and **J21.9 Acute bronchiolitis, unspecified**, within 3 days after a trigger code was used.

*There are additional alternative non-trigger codes that may be used when prescribing an antibiotic.

For more information, please contact Brittany Teixeira, LPN, Quality Improvement Coordinator, at (386) 676-7100, Ext. 7435, or email QualityManagement@fhcp.com.

Thank you.