

# HEDIS 2015 CRITERIA

## Use of Imaging Studies for Low Back Pain (LBP)



**Q: Which members are included in the sample?**

A: Members 18-50 years of age with a primary diagnosis of low back pain who did not have an imaging study (plain X-ray, MRI, CT scan) within 28 days of the diagnosis.

**Q: What codes are used?**

A: Please reference Value Set Directory

**Q: What documentation is needed in the medical record?**

A: None. This measure requires **claim/encounter data** submission only using the appropriate Value Set References.

**Q: What type of document is acceptable?**

A: Evidence from claim/encounter

- Imaging study with diagnosis of low back pain on the IESD or in the 28 days following the IESD\*.

**\*Index Episode Start Date (IESD):** The earliest date of service for an outpatient or ED encounter during the Intake Period (January 1 – December 3, 2014) with a principal diagnosis of low back pain.

**Q: How to improve score for this HEDIS measure?**

A:

- Use of complete and accurate Value Set
- Timely submission of claims and encounter data
- Proper coding or documentation of any of the following diagnoses for which imaging is clinically appropriate – to assist in excluding members from the HEDIS sample. See below for exclusion criteria.

Exclusions: (Use designated Value Set for each)

Any of the following meet criteria:

- Cancer
- Recent Trauma
- Intravenous drug abuse
- Neurologic impairment