



KEYS TO QUALITY

APPROPRIATE TESTING FOR CHILDREN WITH PHARYNGITIS

This measure tests appropriate testing prior to prescribing antibiotics. It was inspired by the national concern regarding the over-prescribing of antibiotics for conditions that do not respond well to this choice of treatment.

The measurement year for this measure is July 1 – June 30.

Is your practice above the statewide average of 83%? If not, here are some hints for performance improvement:

- When diagnosing pharyngitis and prescribing an antibiotic, do a rapid strep test or a culture to confirm group A strep.
- Make sure you bill Affinity. You can bill for the rapid strep test done in your office.
- When billing, use only the codes listed below.
- Be careful when diagnosing: this measure requires that pharyngitis be the *only* diagnosis on the claim.
- Be aware of measure timeframes: if diagnosed and antibiotic prescribed within 3 days afterwards, a strep test must be performed from 3 days prior to diagnosis date to 3 days afterwards.

QARR Measure Specifications:

- **Numerator criteria:** Received a Group A Streptococcus Test
- **Denominator criteria:** Diagnosis of pharyngitis only *and* prescribed an antibiotic

Group A Strep Test Codes:

	87430
	87650 - 87652
test)	87880 (rapid strep
	87081
	87070 - 87071

Questions? Call Affinity’s Quality Management Department at 718.794.6049