

Quality Provider Program: Primary Care Cancer Screening — Breast & Colon: Frequently Asked Questions

Q: Why does this measure matter?

A: These measures are important for patient outcomes as follows:

- **Breast Cancer Screening:**
 - Routine screening mammograms can reduce breast cancer mortality by about 20% for women with average risk.
 - Utah women rank 7.8% below the national average for screening mammograms.
 - Breast cancer is the most common cancer in women worldwide.
 - The incidence of breast cancer doubles between ages 35 and 40, and it continues to increase with every decade of life.
- **Colon Cancer Screening:**
 - The chance of surviving colon cancer exceeds 90% when diagnosed before it has extended beyond the intestinal wall.
 - Colon cancer has been on the rise, most likely due to underutilized screening practices.
 - Colon cancer is the 3rd most common cancer worldwide and the second leading cause of cancer deaths.

Q: What is SelectHealth doing to help?

A: Screening mammography and colonoscopy are covered preventive benefits. Check the SelectHealth Preventive Care guidelines for specific coverage information. In addition, we:

- Work with a data analytics call center to make outbound calls to members who are due for breast and/or colon cancer screening
- Mail a brochure encouraging members to get preventive screenings
- Collaborate with a pharmaceutical company to provide clinics with customizable breast cancer promotional materials (e.g., tent cards, post cards, and a navigation script for making outreach calls)

SelectHealth Quality Provider Program provides an up-to-date registry of patients included in this measure with their compliance status.

Q: What are best practices for this measure?

A: Best practices include:

- Develop a screening policy and put it into practice by:
 - Documenting the policy in writing and sharing it with staff
 - Identifying roles and giving all staff members a responsibility in the process
- Identify available resources and put office systems in place, such as:
 - Instituting pre-visit planning and putting alerts into your EMR
 - Holding daily or weekly care huddles
 - Compiling written patient instruction/information sheets
 - Making tracking and follow-up a part of your process
- Make consistent recommendations, especially from the provider, including:
 - Remembering that a recommendation from a healthcare provider is vital
 - Establishing standard screening messages to be shared with patients
 - Being well versed on all screening modalities available
 - Considering how to best support non-English speaking patients
 - Remembering to address with all populations, including the underserved
- Measure progress toward your goals and adjust the process when needed by:
 - Establishing a baseline screening rate and setting an ambitious goal
 - Discussing how your screening system is working during staff meetings
 - Making process adjustments as needed to ensure success

Cancer Screening, Continued

Resources:

American Cancer Society. *American Cancer Society Guidelines for the Early Detection of Cancer*. ACS.org. Last Revised March 14, 2022. <https://www.cancer.org/content/dam/CRC/PDF/Public/912.00.pdf>. Accessed February 5, 2024.

National Committee for Quality Assurance. Breast cancer screening (BCS, BCS-E). NCQA.org. [date unknown]. <https://www.ncqa.org/hedis/measures/breast-cancer-screening/>. February 5, 2024.

National Committee for Quality Assurance. Colorectal Cancer Screening (COL, COL-E). NCQA.org. [date unknown]. <https://www.ncqa.org/hedis/measures/colorectal-cancer-screening/>. Accessed February 5, 2024.

Utah Department of Health. *Health Indicator Report of Breast Cancer Screening (Mammography)*. ibis.health.utah.gov. Updated November 2021. Published January 13, 2022. https://ibis.health.utah.gov/ibisph-view/indicator/view/BreCAMam.UT_US.html. Accessed February 5, 2024.

Penn Medicine. *The 2 Cancer Screenings You Should Never Skip*. PennMedicine.org. Published February 15, 2019. <https://www.pennmedicine.org/updates/blogs/health-and-wellness/2019/february/the-2-cancer-screenings-you-should-never-skip#:~:text=The%20%20Cancer%20Screenings%20You%20Should%20Never%20Skip&text=Doctors%20agree%3A%20Colonoscopies%20and%20mammograms%20save%20lives>. Accessed February 5, 2024.