

# HEDIS TIPS:

## Colorectal Cancer Screening

### MEASURE DESCRIPTION

Patients 50 to 75 years of age who had one of the following screenings for colorectal cancer screening:

- Fecal occult blood test (gFOBT or iFOBT/FIT) with required number of samples, every year
- Flexible sigmoidoscopy every five years
- Colonoscopy every ten years

**Exclusions:** Diagnosis of colorectal cancer or evidence of total colectomy any time during the member's history.

### USING CORRECT BILLING CODES

Codes to Identify Colorectal Cancer Screening	
Description	Codes
FOBT	<b>CPT:</b> 82270, 82274
Flexible Sigmoidoscopy	<b>CPT:</b> 45330-45335, 45337-45342, 45345 <b>ICD-9:</b> 45.24
Colonoscopy	<b>CPT:</b> 44388-44394, 44397, 45355, 45378-45387, 45391, 45392 <b>ICD-9:</b> 45.22, 45.23, 45.25, 45.42, 45.43
Codes to Identify Exclusions	
Description	Codes
Colorectal Cancer	<b>ICD-9:</b> 153.0-154.3, 197.5, V10.05, V10.06
Total Colectomy	<b>CPT:</b> 44150-44153, 44155-44158, 44210-44212 <b>ICD-9:</b> 45.81-45.83

### HOW TO IMPROVE HEDIS SCORES

- Update patient history annually regarding colorectal cancer screening (test and date must be documented).
- Encourage patients who are resistant to having a colonoscopy to have a stool test that they can complete at home (gFOBT or iFOBT). The iFOBT/FIT has fewer dietary restrictions and samples.
- Use standing orders and empower office staff to distribute FOBT or FIT kits to patients who need colorectal cancer screening or prepare referral for colonoscopy.
- Clearly document patients with ileostomies, which imply colon removal (exclusion), and patients with a history of colon cancer (more and more frequent).