

April 2025

Federal Employee Program

Helping Reduce the Risk of Breast, Cervical, and Colorectal Cancer Through Prevention

The Blue Cross and Blue Shield Federal Employee Program® (FEP) is dedicated to promoting awareness and facilitating early detection of breast, cervical, and colorectal cancer.

As health care providers, it is essential to emphasize the importance of these Healthcare Effectiveness and Data Information Set (HEDIS®) preventive measures. Early detection and screening can significantly improve treatment outcomes and save lives. This bulletin outlines the recommended screening guidelines and preventive measures for these three types of cancer.

Preventive Screening Guidelines

- **Breast Cancer Screening (BCS)** – This HEDIS measure focuses on mammograms to screen for breast cancer in women who are 40 – 74 years old.
 - Appropriate screenings include one or more mammograms (screening, diagnostic, film, and digital, or digital breast tomosynthesis) on or between October 1, two years prior to the measurement year, through December 31 of the measurement year.
- **Cervical Cancer Screening (CCS)** – This HEDIS measure reports the percentage of members who are 21 – 64 years old and had cervical cancer screening (CCS).
 - Members ages 21 – 64 as of December 31 of the measurement year and who had cervical cytology during the measurement year or the two years prior to it.
 - Members ages 30 – 64 as of December 31 of the measurement year and who had cervical cancer screening using either of the following criteria:
 - Cervical high-risk human papillomavirus (hrHPV) testing performed within the past five years
 - Cervical cytology/hrHPV co-testing performed within the past five years
- **Colorectal Cancer Screening (COL)** – This HEDIS measure focuses on members between the ages of 45 – 75 who had appropriate screening for colorectal cancer.
 - Colonoscopy: 10 years (during or the nine years prior to the measurement year)
 - Computerized tomography (CT) colonography or flexible sigmoidoscopy: Five years (during or the four years prior to the measurement year)
 - Flexible sigmoidoscopy: Every 10 years with FIT every year
 - Stool DNA (sDNA) with fecal immunochemical test (FIT)-DNA (Cologuard®) test: Three years (during or the two years prior to the measurement year)
 - Fecal occult blood test (FOBT) – one year (during the measurement year)

Additional information for the above HEDIS quality measures is available at [ncqa.org/hedis/](https://www.ncqa.org/hedis/).

How You Can Help

- Discuss the importance of cancer screenings and ensure your patients are up to date with preventive screenings.
- Send personalized reminders to patients via phone, email, or text message about upcoming screenings.
- Leverage patient engagement platforms, such as patient portals or mobile apps, to educate patients, send reminders, and facilitate scheduling.
- Submit the appropriate diagnosis and procedure codes for the services rendered.
- Submit claims and encounter data in a timely manner.

Preventive Screening Resource

Applicable to Colorectal Cancer Screening (COL):

- Cologuard Test Kit distributed by Exact Sciences Laboratories
If you have questions, contact Cologuard at 1-844-340-1594 (available 24/7) or visit cologuard.com.



With your help, we can ensure patients receive the support they need to navigate their health care journey.

If you have questions regarding copays, emergency care services, locations, or more, please refer to the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Service Benefit Plan brochure or contact Customer Service at **1-800-333-2227**. Members may call the **FEP Nurse Line at 1-888-258-3432** for support. Visit FEPblue.org for more information.

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