

Chlamydia Screening (CHL)

FOR CALIFORNIA HEALTH & WELLNESS PROVIDERS

Learn how to improve your Healthcare Effectiveness Data and Information Set (HEDIS®) rates. This tip sheet gives key details about the Chlamydia Screening (CHL) measure, best practices and more resources.

Measure	<p>The percentage of women ages 16–24 who are identified as sexually active and who had at least one test for Chlamydia as of December 31 of the measurement year.</p> <p>Report two age stratifications and a total rate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 16–20 • 21–24 • Total
Exclusions	<p>Exclude patients who qualified for the denominator – a pregnancy test alone, and meets either of the following criteria.</p> <p>On the date of the pregnancy test or six days after, the patient:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Was prescribed isotretinoin. • Received an X-ray.
Highlights	<p>CHL can have no symptoms for several weeks.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Routine screening is key to detection. • Spreads through unprotected vaginal, anal or oral sex. • Symptoms can include vaginal discharge, a burning feeling when urinating and pain in the lower abdomen.
Barriers	<p>Patients may view a CHL screening as sensitive services. This can prevent talking with their doctor.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provider does not know a patient is sexually active to initiate talks. • Patient is not aware of screening guidelines to ask questions. • Parents go with children to doctor visits and may not know their child is sexually active. Parents then refuse the screening.
Best practices	<p>Yearly screening for sexually active women ages 24 and younger, and in older women who are at an increased risk for infection.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use pharmacy data, claims and encounters to identify sexually active women. • Screen patients who use birth control. • Talk about screening guidelines during annual checkups or other exams. • Share the value of a CHL screening.
CPT codes	<p>Use the appropriate CPT code when billing for CHL screenings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 87110 • 87320 • 87810 • 87270 • 87490–87492



Resources

- U.S. Preventive Services Task Force:
www.uspreventiveservicestaskforce.org/Page/Document/RecommendationStatementFinal/chlamydia-and-gonorrhea-screening.
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention:
www.cdc.gov/std/chlamydia/default.htm.
- Center for Young Women's Health:
<https://youngwomenshealth.org/2012/11/20/chlamydia/>.