

## FAQs: The Excellence Report: Colonoscopy Quality Measures in Ambulatory Care

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### **What quality measures will be used?**

Initially, seven quality measures will be reported. An additional seven measures are in preparation and will be rolled out as soon as possible. Detailed information on these measures, including how you can improve documentation in CORI, is available on the CORI web site at <http://www.cori.org>. The first seven measures are:

1. For average risk patients  $\geq 50$  years of age with no abnormal findings on screening colonoscopy the recommended screening interval is 10 years.
2. Preprocedure risk assessment is documented.
3. A management plan is documented for patients on oral anticoagulants.
4. Sedation medication(s) used and dosages are documented.
5. Quality of bowel prep is documented.
6. Depth of insertion is documented. The cecum is reached unless there are documented reasons for not reaching this depth of insertion.
7. Average examination time for endoscope withdrawal is  $\geq 6$  minutes for screening colonoscopies where no biopsies or polypectomies are performed.

### **Why were those quality measures chosen?**

Quality performance measures for GI endoscopy are still emerging. We looked to three major sources and chose measures that we could implement using the CORI reporting software. The CO-RADS (1) paper describes best practices for documentation of colonoscopy procedures. The ASGE/ACG Taskforce paper (2) is part of a series defining quality measures for endoscopy. In addition, we have been

watching the work of a multisociety group to develop three quality measures for the AMA Physicians Performance Measures program.

(1) Lieberman D, Nadel M, Smith RA, et al. Standardized colonoscopy reporting and data system: report of the Quality Assurance Task Group of the National Colorectal Cancer Roundtable. *Gastrointestinal Endoscopy* 2007;65 (6):757-766.

(2) Rex DK, Petrini JL, Baron TH, et al. Quality Indicators for Colonoscopy. *American Journal of Gastroenterology* 2006;101:873-885.

### **How will my performance be reported?**

Reports will be posted to a secure web site once a month. You can create an account on this site using the CORI Provider ID number that identifies you in the CORI data warehouse. You choose your own username and password so that only you know how to access your data.

Measures will be reported for a rolling 6-month period. For example, one report might be for January through June, the next one for February through July. By reporting in this manner, we hope to give you recent information but at the same time keep the information meaningful even if you have been on vacation or had other variations in your practice.

### **Who can see the reports from my practice?**

You can give permission to anyone else to see your reports. You do this through the web site by specifying their email address. That person must create an account with us, too, but does not have to be a provider. At any point, you can change your mind and take away access by any person to whom you have previously granted access. Otherwise, these reports are for your own use only. They are intended for individual quality improvement and not to make you accountable to anyone else.

### **What practice sites are included?**

These reports will include data only from ambulatory or office practice sites. While some ambulatory patients receive colonoscopies at hospital sites, we do not have a definite way to identify which patients are ambulatory and which are not from those sites. Initially, only 2/3 of our ambulatory /office sites will have access to the quality reports. This is part of the design of the study which has been funded to develop this resource. Once the study is complete, we hope to continue making the reports available, but to all providers practicing in ambulatory settings.

### **What if I practice at more than one place?**

If you practice at more than one ambulatory site and don't believe that all of your cases are being included, please contact CORI at 888-786-2674.

**How is the information reported validated?**

We are validating our reports in three ways – First, we test the queries that generate the reports against the National Endoscopic Database (NED), CORI's data warehouse. The NED is created with stringent data quality checks, so we are confident in the quality of the data that is in it. Second, we use Pareto charts to look for unusual variations in the data. We want to make sure that any variation reflects changes in your practice and not in our processes. Finally, we want to hear from you if you think our numbers are wrong. Which gets to the last question --

**What if I don't agree with the report?**

We want to hear from you. You can call us at 888-786-2674, or submit comments through our online form which can be found at <http://www.excellencereport.org>