

## Eye Exams for Patients with Diabetes: Coding Best Practices

### Neighborhood News – July 2026

Regular diabetic eye exams are essential for managing diabetes effectively and preventing complications. Our Healthcare Effectiveness Data Information Set (HEDIS®) rate for Eye Exams for Patients with Diabetes measure was 74.29% among our Medicaid members in Measurement Year (MY) 2024, ranking us in the 95<sup>th</sup> percentile of the Medicaid Quality Compass® (QC). In MY 2025, this rate decreased to 69.71%, highlighting the importance of sustaining ongoing improvement efforts.

#### HEDIS Measure Description for Diabetic Eye Exams

This measure tracks the percentage of patients (ages 18-75) who received a retinal or dilated eye exam within the measurement year, including those with:

- A retinal or dilated eye exam by an eye care professional (optometrist or ophthalmologist) within the measurement year.
- A negative exam (no signs of retinopathy) within the previous measurement year.
- Bilateral eye enucleation at any point up to December 31 of the measurement year.

#### Coding Best Practices

It's crucial for all providers submitting claims for diabetic eye exams, including eye doctors and primary care providers, to use the appropriate CPT-II codes:

| Value Set Name                  | Codes               |
|---------------------------------|---------------------|
| With Evidence of Retinopathy    | 2022F, 2024F, 2026F |
| Without Evidence of Retinopathy | 2023F, 2025F, 2033F |

**Note:** The use of CPT code “92229” (Imaging of Retina for Detection or Monitoring of Disease) does not document the retinopathy result.

#### Benefits of Using CPT-II Codes

- Does not specify provider specialty, simplifies documentation of the retinopathy result.
- Reduces the necessity for chart review.
- Automatically applicable for current or previous year reporting.

As the National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA) transitions to electronic data collection, accurately using CPT-II codes becomes even more critical for diabetic eye exams. Utilize these codes to ensure your diabetic patients' eye exams are correctly documented and recognized in our HEDIS rates.