

# Depression Screening and Follow-Up for Adolescents and Adults (DSF-E)

## MEASURE DESCRIPTION

The percentage of members 12 years of age and older who were screened for clinical depression using a standardized instrument and, if screened positive, received follow-up care. Two separate rates are evaluated in this measure:

- Depression Screening: The percentage of members with a documented result for depression screening, using an age-appropriate standardized instrument, performed between January 1 and December 1 of the measurement period
- Follow-Up on Positive Screen: The percentage of members who received follow-up care on or up to 30 days after the first positive screen (31 total days), as evidenced in one of the following ways:
  - Any of the following on or up to 30 days after the first positive screen:
    - An outpatient, telephone, e-visit, or virtual check-in follow-up visit with a diagnosis of depression or other behavioral health condition
    - A depression case management encounter that documents assessment for symptoms of depression or a diagnosis of depression or other behavioral health condition
    - A behavioral health encounter, including assessment, therapy, collaborative care, or medication management
    - A diagnosis of encounter for exercise counseling
    - A dispensed antidepressant medication
  - Documentation of additional depression screening on a full-length instrument indicating either no depression or no symptoms that require follow-up on the same day as a positive screen on a brief screening instrument. For example, if there is a positive screen resulting from a Patient Health Questionnaire 2 (PHQ-2)<sup>®</sup> score, documentation of a negative finding from a Patient Health Questionnaire 9 (PHQ-9)<sup>®</sup> performed on the same day qualifies as evidence of follow-up<sup>1 2 3</sup>

## EXCLUSIONS

Members are excluded if the following apply:

Exclusion	Time frame
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Date of death</li> <li>• Hospice or use of hospice services</li> </ul>	Any time during the measurement period
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• History of bipolar disorder</li> </ul>	Any time during the member's history through December 31 of the measurement period
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Depression</li> </ul>	Starts any time during the year prior to the measurement period

## CODING<sup>4</sup>

For exclusions, use the appropriate code:

History of bipolar disorder	
ICD10CM <sup>5</sup>	F30.10, F30.11, F30.12, F30.13, F30.2, F30.3, F30.4, , F30.8, F30.9, F31.0, F31.10, F31.11, F31.12, F31.13, F31.2, F31.30, F31.31, F31.32, F31.4, F31.5, F31.60, F31.61, F31.62, F31.63, F31.64, F31.70, F31.71, F31.72, F31.73, F31.74, F31.75, F31.76, F31.77, F31.78, F31.81, F31.89, F31.9
Depression	
ICD10CM <sup>6</sup>	F01.511, F01.518, F32.0, F32.1, F32.2, F32.3, F32.4, F32.5, F32.81, F32.89, F32.9, F32.A, F33.0, F33.1, F33.2, F33.3, F33.40, F33.41, F33.42, F33.8, F33.9, F34.1, F34.81, F34.89, F43.21, F43.23, F53.0, F53.1, O90.6, O99.340, O99.341, O99.342, O99.343, O99.344, O99.345

For depression screening and results, use the appropriate code based on the screening instrument:

Instrument for adolescents (≤17 Years)	Total score LOINC <sup>7</sup> codes	Positive finding
Patient Health Questionnaire (PHQ-9)	44261-6	Total score ≥ 10
Patient Health Questionnaire Modified for Teens (PHQ-9M)	89204-2	Total score ≥ 10
Patient Health Questionnaire-2 (PHQ-2)	55758-7	Total score ≥ 3
Beck Depression Inventory-Fast Screen (BDI-FS) <sup>® 8</sup>	89208-3	Total score ≥ 8
Center for Epidemiologic Studies Depression Scale—Revised (CESD-R) <sup>9</sup>	89205-9	Total score ≥ 17
Edinburgh Postnatal Depression Scale (EPDS) <sup>10</sup>	99046-5	Total score ≥ 10
PROMIS Depression <sup>11</sup>	71965-8	Total score (T Score) ≥ 60

Instrument for adults (18+ Years)	Total score LOINC codes	Positive finding
Patient Health Questionnaire (PHQ-9)	44261-6	Total score ≥ 10
Patient Health Questionnaire-2 (PHQ-2)	55758-7	Total score ≥ 3
Beck Depression Inventory-Fast Screen (BDI-FS)	89208-3	Total score ≥ 8
Beck Depression Inventory (BDI-II) <sup>® 12</sup>	89209-1	Total score ≥ 20
Center for Epidemiologic Studies Depression Scale—Revised (CESD-R)	89205-9	Total score ≥ 17
Duke Anxiety—Depression Scale (DUKE-AD) <sup>® 13</sup>	90853-3	Total score ≥ 30
Geriatric Depression Scale Short Form (GDS) <sup>14</sup>	48545-8	Total score ≥ 5
Geriatric Depression Scale Long Form (GDS)	48544-1	Total score ≥ 10
Edinburgh Postnatal Depression Scale (EPDS)	99046-5	Total score ≥ 10
My Mood Monitor (M-3) <sup>® 15</sup>	71777-7	Total score ≥ 5
PROMIS Depression	71965-8	Total score (T Score) ≥ 60
PROMIS Emotional Distress—Depression— Short Form	77861-3	Total score (T Score) ≥ 60
Clinically Useful Depression Outcome Scale (CUDOS) <sup>16</sup>	90221-3	Total score ≥ 31

For follow-up on positive depression finding, use the appropriate code:

Follow-up visit	
CPT <sup>17</sup>	[Codes not individually listed due to high volume]
HCPCS <sup>18</sup>	G0071, G0463, G2010, G2012, G2250, G2251, G2252, T1015
UBREV <sup>19</sup>	0510, 0513, 0516, 0517, 0519, 0520, 0521, 0522, 0523, 0526, 0527, 0528, 0529, 0982, 0983
Depression case management encounter	
CPT	99366, 99492, 99493, 99494
HCPCS	G0512, T1016, T1017, T2022, T2023
Behavioral health encounter	
CPT	90791, 90792, 90832, 90833, 90834, 90836, 90837, 90838, 90839, 90845, 90846, 90847, 90849, 90853, 90865, 90867, 90868, 90869, 90870, 90875, 90876, 90880, 90887, 99484, 99492, 99493
HCPCS	G0155, G0176, G0177, G0409, G0410, G0411, G0511, G0512, H0002, H0004, H0031, H0034, H0035, H0036, H0037, H0039, H0040, H2000, H2001, H2010, H2011, H2012, H2013, H2014, H2015, H2016, H2017, H2018, H2019, H2020, S0201, S9480, S9484, S9485
UBREV	0900, 0901, 0902, 0903, 0904, 0905, 0907, 0911, 0912, 0913, 0914, 0915, 0916, 0917, 0919
Diagnosis of encounter for exercise counseling	
ICD-10-CM <sup>20</sup>	Z71.82 (do not include lab claims (claims with POS 81))

## TIPS FOR SUCCESS

### Patient care

- The PHQ-9 may be completed using telehealth, telephone, or a web-based portal/application
- Schedule follow-up appointments as soon as possible, particularly for those with positive findings
- Educate patients about the importance of follow-up care and adherence to treatment recommendations
- Educate patients about the importance of seeking follow-up care with a behavioral health provider
- Coordinate care with behavioral health provider

### Documentation and coding

- Set alerts in your EHR for patients who may need follow-up visits and screenings
- Document medical and surgical history in the medical record with dates in structured fields; this will allow the corresponding code to be included in electronic reporting, including claims, to health plans
- Partner with your health plan payers to submit electronic data from your EMR
- This is an Electronic Clinical Data Systems (ECDS) measure. Information can only be submitted electronically (EMR extracts and FHIR feeds), through claims, or from medical records sent to the plan by the end of the measurement period. Plans cannot perform chart reviews after the measurement period for this measure.

**Note:** Tip sheets are regularly reviewed and revised with pertinent technical specification updates from NCQA.

---

<sup>1</sup> Patient Health Questionnaire 2 (PHQ-2) created by Kroenke, K., Spitzer, R. L., & Williams, J. B. W. (2003), under grant by Pfizer Inc. PHQ-2 ® is a registered trademark of Pfizer Inc.

<sup>2</sup> Patient Health Questionnaire 9 (PHQ-9) created by Kroenke, K., Spitzer, R. L., & Williams, J. B. W. (1999), under grant by Pfizer Inc. PHQ-9 ® is a registered trademark of Pfizer Inc.

<sup>3</sup> National Committee for Quality Assurance. HEDIS® Measurement Year 2026 Volume 2 Technical Specifications for Health Plans (2025), 599-604.

<sup>4</sup> This information is not intended as billing or legal guidance or for creating EMR extract files. These codes are proprietary and do not guarantee payment. Not all codes are included, and coding requirements may change. Each code should be used based on medical necessity and supported by proper documentation in the member record.

<sup>5</sup> ICD-10 created by the National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS), under authorization by the World Health Organization (WHO). Copyright WHO.

<sup>6</sup> ICD-10 created by the National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS), under authorization by the World Health Organization (WHO). Copyright WHO.

<sup>7</sup> LOINC codes are created and maintained by Regenstrief Institute, Inc. and the Logical Observation Identifiers Names and Codes (LOINC) Committee.

<sup>8</sup> Beck, A. T., Steer, R. A., & Brown, G. K. (2000). BDI Fast Screen (BDI-FS) for Medical Patients Manual. The Psychological Corporation, London. BDI-FS ® is a registered trademark of Pearson.

<sup>9</sup> Eaton, W. W., Smith, C., Ybarra, M., Muntaner, C., & Tien, A. (2004). Center for Epidemiologic Studies Depression Scale: Review and Revision (CESD and CESD-R).

<sup>10</sup> Cox, J. L., Holden, J. M., & Sagovsky, R. (1987). Edinburgh Postnatal Depression Scale (EPDS).

<sup>11</sup> Cella, D., Riley, W., Stone, A. A., Rothrock, N., Reeve, B. B., Yount, S., Amtmann, D., D., B., Choi, S., Cook, K. F., et al. (2010). The Patient Reported Outcomes Measurement Information System (PROMIS).

<sup>12</sup> Beck, A. T., Steer, R. A., & Brown, G. K. (1996). Beck Depression Inventory II (BDI-II): Manual and Questionnaire. The Psychological Corporation. BDI-II ® is a registered trademark of Pearson.

<sup>13</sup> Parkerson, G. R., & Broadhead, W. E. (1997). Screening for anxiety and depression in primary care with the Duke Anxiety-Depression Scale (DUKE-AD). DUKE-AD ® is a registered trademark of Duke University.

<sup>14</sup> Sheikh, J. I., & Yesavage, J. A. (1986). Geriatric Depression Scale (GDS).

<sup>15</sup> My Mood Monitor (M3) ® is a registered trademark of the National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA).

<sup>16</sup> Zimmerman, M., Chelminski, I., McGlinchey, J. B., & Posternak, M. A. (2008). A clinically useful depression outcome scale (CUDOS).

<sup>17</sup> CPT ® is a registered trademark of the American Medical Association (AMA).

<sup>18</sup> HCPCS codes and descriptors are approved and maintained jointly by the alpha-numeric editorial panel (consisting of Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, America's Health Insurance Plans, and the Blue Cross Blue Shield Association).

<sup>19</sup> UBREV codes are created and maintained by the National Uniform Billing Committee (NUBC).

<sup>20</sup> ICD-10 created by the National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS), under authorization by the World Health Organization (WHO). Copyright WHO.