

**Measure #156 (NQF 0382): Oncology: Radiation Dose Limits to Normal Tissues – National Quality Strategy Domain: Patient Safety**

**2017 OPTIONS FOR INDIVIDUAL MEASURES:**

**CLAIMS ONLY**

**MEASURE TYPE:**

Process

**DESCRIPTION:**

Percentage of patients, regardless of age, with a diagnosis of breast, rectal, pancreatic or lung cancer receiving 3D conformal radiation therapy who had documentation in medical record that radiation dose limits to normal tissues were established prior to the initiation of a course of 3D conformal radiation for a minimum of two tissues

**INSTRUCTIONS:**

This measure is to be reported a minimum of **once per performance period** for patients with a diagnosis of breast, rectal, pancreatic or lung cancer receiving 3D conformal radiation therapy seen during the performance period. It is anticipated that eligible clinicians providing radiation therapy for patients with cancer will submit this measure.

**Measure Reporting:**

The listed denominator criteria is used to identify the intended patient population. The numerator quality-data codes included in this specification are used to submit the quality actions allowed by the measure. All measure-specific coding should be reported on the claim(s) representing the eligible encounter.

**DENOMINATOR:**

All patients, regardless of age, with a diagnosis of breast, rectal, pancreatic or lung cancer receiving 3D conformal radiation therapy

**Denominator Criteria (Eligible Cases):**

**Diagnosis for breast, rectal, pancreatic or lung cancer (ICD-10-CM):** C19, C20, C21.2, C21.8, C25.0, C25.1, C25.2, C25.3, C25.4, C25.7, C25.8, C25.9, C34.00, C34.01, C34.02, C34.10, C34.11, C34.12, C34.2, C34.30, C34.31, C34.32, C34.80, C34.81, C34.82, C34.90, C34.91, C34.92, C50.011, C50.012, C50.019, C50.021, C50.022, C50.029, C50.111, C50.112, C50.119, C50.121, C50.122, C50.129, C50.211, C50.212, C50.219, C50.221, C50.222, C50.229, C50.311, C50.312, C50.319, C50.321, C50.322, C50.329, C50.411, C50.412, C50.419, C50.421, C50.422, C50.429, C50.511, C50.512, C50.519, C50.521, C50.522, C50.529, C50.611, C50.612, C50.619, C50.621, C50.622, C50.629, C50.811, C50.812, C50.819, C50.821, C50.822, C50.829, C50.911, C50.912, C50.919, C50.921, C50.922, C50.929

**AND**

**Patient procedure during the performance period (CPT):** 77295

**AND NOT**

**Diagnosis for metastatic cancer (ICD-10-CM):** C77.0, C77.1, C77.2, C77.3, C77.4, C77.5, C77.8, C77.9, C78.00, C78.01, C78.02, C78.1, C78.2, C78.30, C78.39, C78.4, C78.5, C78.6, C78.7, C78.80, C78.89, C79.00, C79.01, C79.02, C79.10, C79.11, C79.19, C79.2, C79.31, C79.32, C79.40, C79.49, C79.51, C79.52, C79.60, C79.61, C79.62, C79.70, C79.71, C79.72, C79.81, C79.82, C79.89, C79.9

**NUMERATOR:**

Patients who had documentation in medical record that radiation dose limits to normal tissues were established prior to the initiation of a course of 3D conformal radiation for a minimum of two tissues

**Numerator Quality-Data Coding Options:**

**Radiation Dose Limits to Normal Tissues Established**

**Performance Met:** CPT II 0520F:

Radiation dose limits to normal tissues established

prior to the initiation of a course of 3D conformal radiation for a minimum of two tissue/organ

OR

Radiation Dose Limits to Normal Tissues not Established, Reason not Otherwise Specified Append a reporting modifier (8P) to CPT Category II code 0520F to report circumstances when the action described in the numerator is not performed and the reason is not otherwise specified.

*Performance Not Met: 0520F with 8P:*

Radiation dose limits to normal tissues not established prior to the initiation of a course of 3D conformal radiation for a minimum of two tissue/organ, reason not otherwise specified

RATIONALE:

Identifying radiation dose limits to normal tissues is an important step in the process of care for patients receiving radiation therapy treatments. Although no specific data is available, in its practice accreditation reviews, the American College of Radiation Oncology has found that radiation dose limits to normal tissues are included in the patient chart less frequently than reviewers expected. While dose constraint specification is an integral part of IMRT, it is not required for 3D conformal radiation therapy. Patients treated with 3D conformal radiation therapy are often subjected to dose levels that exceed normal tissue tolerance, and precise specification of maximum doses to be received by normal tissues represent both an intellectual process for the physician during radiation treatment planning, and a fail-safe point for the treating therapists. In most circumstances where facilities require specification of radiation dose limits to normal tissues prior to initiation of therapy, policies and procedures exist that prohibit exceeding those limits in the absence of written physician approval.

CLINICAL RECOMMENDATION STATEMENTS:

Breast Cancer

Whole Breast Radiation: Target definition includes the majority of the breast tissue, and is best done by both clinical assessment and CT-based treatment planning. A uniform dose distribution and minimal normal tissue toxicity are the goals and can be accomplished using compensators such as wedges, forward planning using segments, intensity-modulated radiation therapy (IMRT), respiratory gating, or prone positioning. (NCCN, 2014)

Chest Wall Radiation (including breast reconstruction)

The target includes the ipsilateral chest wall, mastectomy scar, and drain sites where possible. Depending on whether the patient has been reconstructed or not, several techniques using photons and/or electrons are appropriate. CT-based treatment planning is encouraged in order to identify lung and heart volumes, and minimize exposure of these organs. Special consideration should be given to the use of bolus material when photon fields are used, to ensure the skin dose is adequate. (NCCN, 2014)

Rectal Cancer

Radiation therapy fields should include the tumor or tumor bed, with a 2-5 cm margin, the presacral nodes, and the internal iliac nodes. The external iliac nodes should also be included for T4 tumors involving anterior structures.

Multiple radiation therapy fields should be used (generally a 3- or 4- field technique). Positioning and other techniques to minimize the volume of small bowel in the fields should be encouraged. (NCCN, 2014)

Pancreatic Adenocarcinoma

It is imperative to evaluate the DVH [dose volume histogram] of the PTV [planning target volume] and critical normal structures such as liver, kidneys, spinal cord, liver and bowel. While these limits are empirical they differ based on dose per fraction, total dose delivered, and disease status (adjuvant vs. unresectable). Studies have shown that the tolerability of radiation is largely dependent on PTV size/elective nodal irradiation, types of concurrent systemic/

targeted therapy, and whether conformal (3-D, IMRT, SBRT) vs. conventional radiation is used. (NCCN, 2012)

#### Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer

It is essential to evaluate the dose volume histogram (DVH) of critical structures and to limit the doses to the spinal cord, lungs, heart, esophagus, and brachial plexus to minimize normal tissue toxicity. These limits are mainly empirical. For patients receiving postoperative RT, more strict DVH parameters should be considered for lung. (NCCN, 2012)

#### Small Cell Lung Cancer

Normal tissue doses will be dependent on tumor size and location. (NCCN, 2012)

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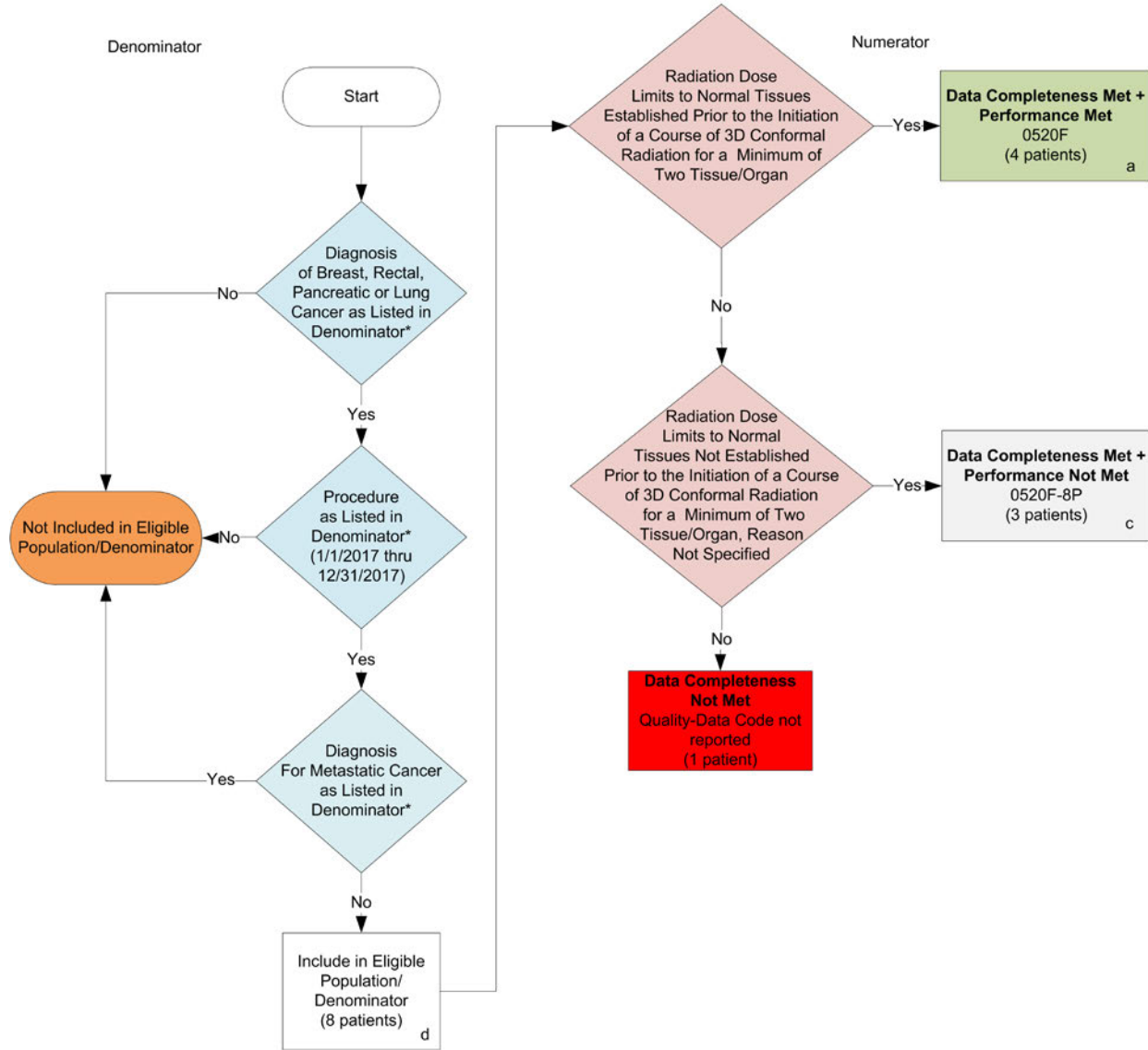
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**2017 Claims Individual Measure Flow**  
**#156 NQF #0382: Oncology: Radiation Dose Limits to Normal Tissues**



**SAMPLE CALCULATIONS:**

**Data Completeness=**  

$$\frac{\text{Performance Met (a=4 patients)} + \text{Performance Not Met (c=3 patients)}}{\text{Eligible Population / Denominator (d=8 patients)}} = \frac{7 \text{ patients}}{8 \text{ patients}} = 87.50\%$$

**Performance Rate=**  

$$\frac{\text{Performance Met (a=4 patients)}}{\text{Data Completeness Numerator (7 patients)}} = \frac{4 \text{ patients}}{7 \text{ patients}} = 57.14\%$$

\*See the posted Measure Specification for specific coding and instructions to report this measure.  
 NOTE: Report Frequency: Patient Process

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**2017 Claims Individual Measure Flow**  
**#156 NQF #0382: Oncology: Radiation Dose Limits to Normal Tissues**

Please refer to the specific section of the Measure Specification to identify the denominator and numerator information for use in reporting this Individual Measure.

1. Start with Denominator
2. Check Patient Diagnosis:
  - a. If Diagnosis of Breast, Rectal, Pancreatic or Lung Cancer as Listed in the Denominator equals No, do not include in Eligible Patient Population. Stop Processing.
  - b. If Diagnosis of Breast, Rectal, Pancreatic or Lung Cancer as Listed in the Denominator equals Yes, proceed to check Procedure Performed.
3. Check Procedure Performed:
  - a. If Procedure Performed as Listed in the Denominator equals No, do not include in Eligible Patient Population. Stop Processing.
  - b. If Procedure Performed as Listed in the Denominator equals Yes, proceed to check Patient Diagnosis for Metastatic Cancer.
4. Check Patient Diagnosis for Metastatic Cancer:
  - a. If Diagnosis of Metastatic Cancer as Listed in the Denominator equals Yes, do not include in Eligible Patient Population. Stop Processing.
  - b. If Diagnosis of Metastatic Cancer as Listed in the Denominator equals No, include in Eligible population.
5. Denominator Population:
  - a. Denominator population is all Eligible Patients in the denominator. Denominator is represented as Denominator in the Sample Calculation listed at the end of this document. Letter d equals 8 patients in the sample calculation.
6. Start Numerator
7. Check Radiation Dose Limits to Normal Tissues Established Prior to the Initiation of 3D Conformal Radiation Minimum Two Tissue/Organ:
  - a. If Radiation Dose Limits to Normal Tissues Established Prior to the Initiation of 3D Conformal Radiation Minimum Two Tissue/Organ equals Yes, include in Data Completeness Met and Performance Met.
  - b. Data Completeness Met and Performance Met letter is represented in the Data Completeness and Performance Rate in the Sample Calculation listed at the end of this document. Letter a equals 4 patients in Sample Calculation.
  - c. If Radiation Dose Limits to Normal Tissues Established Prior to the Initiation of 3D Conformal Radiation Minimum Two Tissue/Organ equals No, proceed to Radiation Dose Limits to Normal Tissue Not Established Prior to the Initiation of 3D Conformal Radiation Minimum Two Tissue/Organ, Reason Not Specified.

8. Check Radiation Dose Limits to Normal Tissues Not Established Prior to the Initiation of 3D Conformal Radiation Minimum Two Tissue/Organ, Reason Not Specified:
  - a. If Radiation Dose Limits to Normal Tissue Not Established Prior to the Initiation of 3D Conformal Radiation Minimum Two Tissue/Organ, Reason Not Specified equals Yes, include in Data Completeness Met and Performance Not Met.
  - b. Data Completeness Met and Performance Not Met letter is represented in the Data Completeness in the Sample Calculation listed at the end of this document. Letter c equals 3 patients in the Sample Calculation.
  - c. If Radiation Dose Limits to Normal Tissue Not Established Prior to the Initiation of 3D Conformal Radiation Minimum Two Tissue/Organ, Reason Not Specified equals No, proceed to Data Completeness Not Met.
  
9. Check Data Completeness Not Met:
  - a. If Data Completeness Not Met equals No, Quality Data Code not reported. 1 patient has been subtracted from the data completeness numerator in the sample calculation.

**SAMPLE CALCULATIONS:**

**Data Completeness=**

$$\frac{\text{Performance Met (a=4 patients)} + \text{Performance Not Met (c=3 patients)}}{\text{Eligible Population / Denominator (d=8 patients)}} = \frac{7 \text{ patients}}{8 \text{ patients}} = 87.50\%$$

**Performance Rate=**

$$\frac{\text{Performance Met (a=4 patients)}}{\text{Data Completeness Numerator (7 patients)}} = \frac{4 \text{ patients}}{7 \text{ patients}} = 57.14\%$$