

Appropriate Treatment for Upper Respiratory Infection (URI)

New for 2026

- No applicable changes for this measure



Yes!

Supplemental data accepted for required exclusions only

Definition

Percentage of episodes for members 3 months and older who were given a diagnosis of upper respiratory infection (URI) between July 1 of the year prior to the measurement year through June 30 of the measurement year and were **not** dispensed an antibiotic prescription on or 3 days after the diagnosis day (4 days total). A higher rate indicates appropriate treatment (not prescribed an antibiotic).

Plans(s) affected	Quality program(s) affected	Collection and reporting method
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exchange/Marketplace 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CMS Quality Rating System 	<p>Administrative</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Claim/encounter data • Pharmacy data

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Appropriate Treatment for Upper Respiratory Infection (URI) (cont.)

Medications

The following antibiotic medications should **not** be prescribed for an upper respiratory infection:

Drug category	Medications
Aminoglycosides	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Amikacin • Gentamicin • Streptomycin • Tobramycin
Aminopenicillins	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Amoxicillin • Ampicillin
Beta-lactamase inhibitors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Amoxicillin-clavulanate • Ampicillin-sulbactam • Piperacillin-tazobactam
First generation cephalosporins	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cefadroxil • Cefazolin • Cephalexin
Fourth generation cephalosporins	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cefepime
Lincomycin derivatives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clindamycin • Lincomycin
Macrolides	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Azithromycin • Clarithromycin • Erythromycin
Miscellaneous antibiotics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aztreonam • Chloramphenicol • Dalfopristin-quinupristin • Daptomycin • Linezolid • Metronidazole • Vancomycin

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Appropriate Treatment for Upper Respiratory Infection (URI) (cont.)

Drug category	Medications
Natural penicillins	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Penicillin G benzathine-procaine • Penicillin G potassium • Penicillin G procaine • Penicillin G sodium • Penicillin V potassium • Penicillin G benzathine
Penicillinase-resistant penicillins	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dicloxacillin • Nafcillin • Oxacillin
Quinolones	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ciprofloxacin • Gemifloxacin • Levofloxacin • Moxifloxacin • Ofloxacin
Rifamycin derivatives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rifampin
Second generation cephalosporins	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cefaclor • Cefotetan • Cefoxitin • Cefprozil • Cefuroxime
Sulfonamides	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sulfadiazine • Sulfamethoxazole-trimethoprim
Tetracyclines	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Doxycycline • Minocycline • Tetracycline
Third generation cephalosporins	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cefdinir • Cefixime • Cefotaxime • Cefpodoxime • Ceftazidime • Ceftriaxone
Urinary anti-infectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fosfomycin • Nitrofurantoin • Nitrofurantoin macrocrystals-monohydrate • Trimethoprim

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Required exclusion(s)

Exclusion	Time frame
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Members in hospice or using hospice services Members who died 	Any time during the measurement year

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