


Avoidance of Antibiotic Treatment for Acute Bronchitis/Bronchiolitis (AAB)

New for 2026

- No applicable changes for this measure

Definition

Percentage of episodes for members ages 3 months and older with a diagnosis of acute bronchitis/bronchiolitis between July 1 of the year prior to the measurement year through June 30 of the measurement year who were **not** dispensed an antibiotic medication on or 3 days after the episode. A higher rate indicates appropriate treatment (not prescribed an antibiotic).



Yes!
Supplemental data accepted for required exclusions only

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

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Avoidance of Antibiotic Treatment for Acute Bronchitis/Bronchiolitis (AAB) (cont.)

Medications

To comply with this measure, the following antibiotics should **not** be dispensed upon diagnosis of acute bronchitis:

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

Tips and best practices to help close this care opportunity

- An episode for bronchitis/bronchiolitis will **not** count toward the measure denominator if the member was diagnosed with 1 of these conditions within 12 months of the event:
 - Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD)
 - Disorders of the immune system
 - Emphysema
 - HIV
 - Malignant neoplasms
 - Other malignant neoplasms of the skin
- An episode for bronchitis/bronchiolitis will **not** count toward the measure denominator if the member was diagnosed with either pharyngitis or a competing diagnosis on or 3 days after the episode date

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