

# 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"> <li>• Exchange/Marketplace</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CMS Quality Rating System</li> </ul> | <p><b>Administrative</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Claim/encounter data</li> <li>• Pharmacy data</li> </ul> |

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

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

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

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## Required exclusion(s)

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

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