



IMPROVING HEALTH CARE QUALITY

Cervical Cancer Screening

Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Illinois (BCBSIL) collects data from our providers to measure and improve the quality of care our members receive. Cervical cancer screening (CCS) is one aspect of care we measure in our quality programs.*

What We Measure

To evaluate the level of care our members receive regarding CCS, we capture the percentage of women ages 21 to 64 who were screened for cervical cancer using one of the following criteria:

- Women ages 21 to 64 who had cervical cytology performed within the last 3 years
- Women ages 30 to 64 who had cervical high-risk human papillomavirus (hrHPV) testing within the last 5 years
- Women ages 30 to 64 who had cervical cytology/high-risk human papillomavirus (hrHPV) co-testing within the last 5 years

CCS is a Healthcare Effectiveness Data and Information Set (HEDIS®) measure. See the [National Committee for Quality Assurance \(NCQA\) website](#) for more details.

Why It Matters

Cervical cancer is a disease in which cells in the cervix grow out of control. Cervical cancer used to be one of the most common causes of cancer death for American women. Effective screening has reduced the mortality rate by more than 50 percent over the last 30 years. Cervical cancer is preventable in most cases because effective screening tests exist. If detected early, cervical cancer is highly treatable. Learn more from [NCQA](#).



Eligible Population

Women with a cervix ages 21-64 as of Dec. 31 of the measurement year are included in this measure.

Exclusions: Members who meet any of the following criteria are excluded:

- Had a total, complete or radical vaginal or abdominal hysterectomy with no residual cervix, cervical agenesis or acquired absence of cervix before Dec. 31 of the measurement year
- Are in hospice or palliative care

Ways to Improve

- Review and document members' surgical and preventive screenings history with results.
- Use correct diagnosis and procedure codes.
- Submit claims and encounter data in a timely manner.

How to Document

CCS data is collected through claims data and chart review.

For more information, see [NCQA's HEDIS Measures and Technical Resources](#).



Questions?

Contact your BCBSIL Provider Network Consultant.



* Quality measures evaluate a prior calendar year performance. Measure specifications are from the National Quality Forum (NQF) and/or National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA).

The above material is for informational purposes only and is not a substitute for the independent medical judgment of a physician or other health care provider. Physicians and other health care providers are encouraged to use their own medical judgment based upon all available information and the condition of the patient in determining the appropriate course of treatment. The fact that a service or treatment is described in this material is not a guarantee that the service or treatment is a covered benefit and members should refer to their certificate of coverage for more details, including benefits, limitations and exclusions. Regardless of benefits, the final decision about any service or treatment is between the member and their health care provider.

HEDIS is a registered trademark of the NCQA.