



Eligible Professional Meaningful Use Core Measures Measure 8 of 13

Stage 1 (2014 Definition)
Last updated: May 2014

Record Vital Signs	
Objective	Record and chart changes in the following vital signs: (A) Height (B) Weight (C) Blood pressure (D) Calculate and display body mass index (BMI) (E) Plot and display growth charts for children 0-20 years, including BMI
Measure	For more than 50 percent of all unique patients seen by the EP during the EHR reporting period have blood pressure (for patients age 3 and over only) and height and weight (for all ages) recorded as structured data.
Exclusion	Any EP who: 1. Sees no patients 3 years or older is excluded from recording blood pressure; 2. Believes that all three vital signs of height, weight, and blood pressure have no relevance to their scope of practice is excluded from recording them; 3. Believes that height and weight are relevant to their scope of practice, but blood pressure is not, is excluded from recording blood pressure; or 4. Believes that blood pressure is relevant to their scope of practice, but height and weight are not, is excluded from recording height and weight.

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Definition of Terms

Unique Patient – If a patient is seen by an EP more than once during the EHR reporting period, then for purposes of measurement that patient is only counted once in the denominator for the measure. All the measures relying on the term “unique patient” relate to what is contained in the patient’s medical record. Not all of this information will need to be updated or even be needed by the provider at every patient encounter. This is especially true for patients whose encounter frequency is such that they would see the same provider multiple times in the same EHR reporting period.

Attestation Requirements

NUMERATOR / DENOMINATOR

- DENOMINATOR: Number of unique patients (age 3 or over for blood pressure) seen by the EP during the EHR reporting period.
- NUMERATOR: Number of patients in the denominator who have at least one entry of their height, weight and blood pressure (ages 3 and over) recorded as structured data.

The resulting percentage (Numerator ÷ Denominator) must be more than 50 percent in order for an EP to meet this measure.

EXCLUSION

- EXCLUSION: Any EP who
 1. Sees no patients 3 years or older is excluded from recording blood pressure;
 2. Believes that all three vital signs of height, weight, and blood pressure have no relevance to their scope of practice is excluded from recording them;
 3. Believes that height and weight are relevant to their scope of practice, but blood pressure is not, is excluded from recording blood pressure; or
 4. Believes that blood pressure is relevant to their scope of practice, but height and weight are not, is excluded from recording height and weight.

Additional Information

- The provider is permitted, but not required, to limit the measure of this objective to those patients whose records are maintained using certified EHR technology.
- The only information required to be inputted by the provider is the height, weight, and blood pressure of the patient. The certified EHR technology will calculate BMI and the growth chart if applicable to patient based on age.
- Height, weight, and blood pressure do not have to be updated by the EP at every patient encounter. The EP can make the determination based on the patient's individual circumstances as to whether height, weight, and blood pressure need to be updated.
- Height, weight, and blood pressure can get into the patient's medical record as structured data in a number of ways. Some examples include entry by the EP, entry by someone on the EP's staff, transfer of the information electronically or otherwise from another provider or entered directly by the patient through a portal or other means.
- This specification sheet has been updated to reflect the applicable Stage 1 provisions in the [Stage 2 Meaningful Use Final Rule](#), published on September 4, 2012.

Certification and Standards Criteria

Below is the corresponding certification and standards criteria for electronic health record technology that supports achieving the meaningful use of this objective.



Certification Criteria*

§170.314(a)(4) Vital signs, body mass index, and growth charts

(i) Vital signs. Enable a user to electronically record, change, and access, at a minimum, a patient's height/length, weight, and blood pressure. Height/length, weight, and blood pressure must be recorded in numerical values only.

(ii) Calculate body mass index. Automatically calculate and electronically display body mass index based on a patient's height and weight.

Optional – Plot and display growth charts. Plot and electronically display, upon request, growth charts for patients.

*Additional certification criteria may apply. Review the [ONC 2014 Edition EHR Certification Criteria Grid Mapped to Meaningful Use Stage 1](#) for more information.

Standards Criteria

N/A