



Asthma Management (2013)

Benchmark to qualify for bonus payments: This measurement has separate benchmarks for different age ranges. The bonus will be determined for each age group independently. (The age ranges have changed from previous years to remain consistent with the HEDIS national measurement standards.)

- ages 5-11 years (benchmark 91.59%)
- ages 12-18 years (benchmark 86.96%)
- ages 19-50 years (benchmark 75.53%)
- ages 51-64 years (benchmark 73.81%)

Measurement Period: Calendar year 2013

Qualifying Service: One pharmacy claim for an Asthma Controller Medication (see Table: **Asthma Controller Medication**). Writing a prescription is not a qualifying service. The prescription must be dispensed at least once during the measurement period, based on paid claims data from HFS.

Asthma Controller Medications

Description	Prescriptions		
Antiasthmatic combinations	• Dyphylline-guaifenesin	• Guaifenesin-theophylline	
Antibody inhibitor	• Omalizumab		
Inhaled steroid combinations	• Budesonide-formoterol	• Fluticasone-salmeterol	• Mometasone-formoterol
Inhaled corticosteroids	• Beclomethasone • Budesonide • Ciclesonide	• Flunisolide • Fluticasone CFC free	• Mometasone • Triamcinolone
Leukotriene modifiers	• Montelukast	• Zafirlukast	• Zileuton
Mast cell stabilizers	• Cromolyn		
Methylxanthines	• Aminophylline	• Dyphylline	• Theophylline

Qualifying patient: Patients with persistent asthma on the PCPs roster on December 1, 2013. Patients are considered to have persistent asthma if they meet any one of the four criteria below during both the measurement year and the year prior to the measurement year (criteria need not be the same across both years).

- At least one ED visit with asthma as the principal diagnosis.
- At least one inpatient admission with asthma as the principal diagnosis.
- At least four outpatient asthma visits on different dates of service (non-ER services with RecordIDCd of 'N' or 'O') with asthma as the primary diagnosis and at least two asthma medication dispensing events.

- At least four asthma medication dispensing events means an asthma medication from the Table: **Asthma Medications** is dispensed on four occasions (see Table: **Asthma Medication**).

Asthma Medications

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Leukotriene modifiers	• Montelukast	• Zafirlukast	• Zileuton
Long-acting, inhaled beta-2 agonists	• Arformoterol	• Formoterol	• Salmeterol
Mast cell stabilizers	• Cromolyn		
Methylxanthines	• Aminophylline	• Dyphylline	• Theophylline
Short-acting, inhaled beta-2 agonists	• Albuterol • Levalbuterol	• Metaproterenol • Pirbuterol	

For a patient identified as having persistent asthma because of at least four asthma medication dispensing events, where leukotriene modifiers were the sole asthma medication dispensed, the member must:

- Meet any of the three other criteria listed above in the same year as the leukotriene modifier, **or**
 - Have at least one diagnosis of asthma in any setting in the same year as the leukotriene modifier (i.e., measurement year or prior to the measurement year).

Codes to Identify Visit Type

Description	CP	UB-92 Revenue
Outpatient/ Office Visit	99201-99205, 99211-99215, 99217-99220, 99241-99245, 99341-99345, 99347-99350, 99382-99386, 99392-99396, 99401-99404, 99411-99412, 99420, 99429	051x, 0520-0523, 0526-0529, 057x-059x, 0982, 0983
In-patient	99221-99223, 99231-99233, 99238, 99239, 99251-99255, 99291	0110-0114, 0119-0124, 0129-0134, 0139-0144, 0149-0154, 0159, 010x, 016x, 020x, 021x, 072x, 0987
Emergency Department	99281-99285	045x, 0981

Asthma Diagnosis Codes (ICD-9): 493.0, 493.1, 493.8, 493.9.

Exclusions:

Emphysema: 492, 518.1, 518.2

COPD: 491.2, 493.2, 496, 506.4

Cystic Fibrosis: 277.0

Acute Respiratory Failure: 518.81

Reference: <http://www.nhlbi.nih.gov/guidelines/asthma/>