



**Depression Care
Remission at Six Months Specifications
2020 Report Year
11/1/2017 to 10/31/2018 Dates of Index**

Summary of Changes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Included adolescent age group (12 – 17 years of age) to age range • Eligible specialties expanded to include Pediatric/Adolescent Medicine • Added the PHQ-9M tool as acceptable assessment tool • Expanded six-month assessment window from +/- 30 days to +/- 60 days • Removed requirement that diagnosis of Major Depression or Dysthymia must be in primary position if seen by a psychiatry or behavioral health provider • Added the provision that a PHQ-9 or PHQ-9M score greater than 9 can be documented on the same date or up to seven days prior to the encounter (index event) and this date occurs during the denominator identification measurement period. This allows for pre-visit planning and administering the PHQ-9 or PHQ-9M just prior to an encounter. • Updated required exclusions – removed Personality Disorders (<i>Personality Disorders Value Set</i>) and added Schizophrenia or Psychotic Disorders (<i>Schizophrenia and Psychotic Disorders Value Set</i>) • Updated allowable exclusions – added Personality Disorder – Emotionally Labile Conditions (<i>Personality Disorder – Emotionally Labile Value Set</i>) and Pervasive Developmental Disorder (<i>Pervasive Developmental Disorder Value Set</i>) • Clarification for exclusion timeframe prior to the end of the measurement assessment period 	
Description	The percentage of adolescent (12 – 17 years of age) and adult (18 years of age or older) patients with Major Depression or Dysthymia who reached remission six months (+/- 60 days) after an index event	
Measurement Period	Denominator Identification Period: November 1, 2017 through October 31, 2018 Measure Assessment Period: For each patient, the measure assessment period begins with an index event and is 14 months (12 months +/- 60 days) in length.	
Eligible Population	Eligible Specialties	Family Medicine, Internal Medicine, Geriatric Medicine, Psychiatry, Behavioral Health, Pediatric/Adolescent Medicine
	Eligible Providers	Medical Doctor (MD), Doctor of Osteopathy (DO), Physician Assistant (PA), Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (APRN) If a physician is on site, these providers are also eligible: Licensed Psychologist (LP), Licensed Independent Clinical Social Worker (LICSW), Licensed Professional Clinical Counselor (LPCC), Licensed Marriage & Family Therapist (LMFT)

Helpline: 612-746-4522 | E-mail: support@mncm.org | Data Portal: <https://data.mncm.org/login>

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	Ages	12 years of age or older at the index event
	Event (Index)	<p>An index event occurs when ALL of the following criteria are met during an encounter*:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A PHQ-9 or PHQ-9M** result greater than nine • An active diagnosis of Major Depression or Dysthymia (<i>Major Depression or Dysthymia Value Set</i>) • The patient is NOT in a prior measure assessment period <p>* For this measure, encounter is defined as any of the following: office visit, psychiatry or psychotherapy visit, telephone or online encounter.</p> <p>** A PHQ-9 or PHQ-9M score greater than 9 documented on the same date or up to seven days prior to the encounter (index event) and this date occurs during the denominator identification measurement period.</p>
Denominator	The eligible population who had index events during the denominator identification period.	
Numerator	The number of patients in the denominator who reached remission, with a PHQ-9 or PHQ-9M result less than five, six months (+/- 60 days) after an index event	
Required Exclusions	<p>The following exclusions must be applied to the eligible population:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Patient had an active diagnosis of Bipolar Disorder (<i>Bipolar Disorder Value Set</i>) any time prior to the end of the measure assessment period • Patient had an active diagnosis of Schizophrenia or Psychotic Disorder (<i>Schizophrenia and Psychotic Disorder Value Set</i>) any time prior to the end of the measure assessment period 	



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Allowable Exclusions <i>(Optional)</i>	<p>The following exclusions are optional and may be applied to the eligible population:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Patient was a permanent nursing home resident at any time prior to the end of the measure assessment period • Patient was in hospice or receiving palliative care (<i>Palliative Care Value Set</i>) at any time prior to the end of the measure assessment period • Patient died any time prior to the end of the measure assessment period • Patient had an active diagnosis of Personality Disorder – Emotionally Labile Conditions (<i>Personality Disorder – Emotionally Labile Value Set</i>) any time prior to the end of the measure assessment period • Patient had an active diagnosis of Pervasive Developmental Disorder (<i>Pervasive Developmental Disorder Value Set</i>) any time prior to the end of the measure assessment period
Measure Scoring	<p>Rate/Proportion</p> <p>Results are always stratified by age:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Depression Remission at Six Months, Adolescents (12-17 years of age) • Depression Remission at Six Months, Adults (18 years of age or older)
Interpretation of Score	<p>Higher score indicates better quality</p>
Measure Type	<p>Outcome</p>