# Appropriate Treatment for Upper Respiratory Infection (URI)

## Description of Measure

The percentage of episodes for members 3 months of age and older with a diagnosis of upper respiratory infection (URI) that did not result in an antibiotic dispensing event.[1]

The measure is reported as an inverted rate. A higher rate indicates appropriate URI treatment (i.e., the proportion of episodes that did not result in an antibiotic dispensing event.)

## Numerator Compliance

Dispensed prescription for an antibiotic medication from the AAB Antibiotic Medications List on or 3 days after the Episode Date.

## AB Antibiotic Medications

| Description | Prescription |
|---|---|
| Aminoglycosides | ■ Amikacin<br>■ Gentamicin<br>■ Streptomycin<br>■ Tobramycin |
| Aminopenicillins | ■ Amoxicillin<br>■ Ampicillin |
| Beta-lactamase inhibitors | ■ Amoxicillin-clavulanate<br>■ Ampicillin-sulbactam<br>■ Piperacillin-tazobactam |
| First-generation cephalosporins | ■ Cefadroxil<br>■ Cephalexin |
| Lincomycin derivatives | ■ Clindamycin<br>■ Lincomycin |
| Macrolides | ■ Azithromycin<br>■ Clarithromycin<br>■ Erythromycin |

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# AAB Antibiotic Medications (continued)

| Description | Prescription |
|---|---|
| Miscellaneous antibiotics | ■ Aztreonam<br>■ Chloramphenicol<br>■ Dalfopristin-quinupristin<br>■ Daptomycin<br>■ Linezolid<br>■ Metronidazole<br>■ Vancomycin |
| Natural penicillins | ■ Penicillin G benzathine-procaine<br>■ Penicillin G potassium<br>■ Penicillin G procaine<br>■ Penicillin G sodium<br>■ Penicillin V potassium<br>■ Penicillin G benzathine |
| Penicillinase resistant penicillins | ■ Dicloxacillin<br>■ Nafcillin<br>■ Oxacillin |
| Quinolones | ■ Ciprofloxacin<br>■ Gemifloxacin<br>■ Levofloxacin<br>■ Moxifloxacin<br>■ Ofloxacin |
| Rifamycin derivatives | ■ Cefdinir<br>■ Cefixime<br>■ Cefpodoxime<br>■ Ceftriaxone |
| Second-generation cephalosporin | ■ Rifampin |
| Sulfonamides | ■ Sulfadiazine<br>■ Sulfamethoxazole-trimethoprim |
| Tetracyclines | ■ Doxycycline<br>■ Minocycline<br>■ Tetracycline |
| Third-generation cephalosporins | ■ Cefdinir<br>■ Cefixime<br>■ Cefotaxime<br>■ Cefpodoxime Ceftazidime<br>■ Ceftriaxone |
| Urinary anti-infectives | ■ Fosfomycin<br>■ Nitrofurantoin<br>■ Nitrofurantoin macrocrystals-monohydrate<br>■ Trimethoprim |

| Codes | DESCRIPTIONS |
|---|---|
| **ICD10:** J00, J06.0, J06.9 | URI |
| **ICD10:** J02.0, J02.8, J02.9, J03.00, J03.01, J03.80, J03.81, J03.90, J03.91 | Pharyngitis |
| **CPT:** 98000 – 98016, 98966 – 98968, 98970 – 98972, 98980, 98981, 99202 – 99205, 99211 – 99215, 99242 – 99245, 99281 – 99285, 99341, 99342, 99344, 99345, 99347 – 99350, 99381 – 99387, 99391 – 99397, 99401 – 99404, 99411, 99412, 99421 – 99423, 99429, 99441- 99458, 99483<br>**HCPCS:** G0071, G0402, G0438, G0439, G0463, G2010, G2012, G2250 - G2252, T1015 | Outpatient Visit or Telehealth |

## Exclusions

| Exclusions | Time limit |
|---|---|
| ▪ Members who use hospice services) or elect to use a hospice benefit<br>▪ Members who have died<br>▪ Visits that result in an inpatient stay | Any time during measurement year (MY) |

## Exclusion Codes

| Code | Definition |
|---|---|
| **CPT:** 99377, 99378<br><br>**HCPCS:** G0182, G9473 - G9479, Q5003 - Q5008, Q5010, S9126, T2042 - T2046 | **Hospice Care** |

|  |  |
|---|---|
| **Strategies for Success** | ▪ If a member tests negative for group A strep but insists on an antibiotic:<br>  - Refer to the illness as a sore throat due to a cold; members tend to associate the label with a less frequent need for antibiotics.<br>  - Write a prescription for symptom relief, like over-the-counter medications<br>▪ Educate members on the difference between bacterial vs viral infections.<br>▪ Avoid treating viral syndromes with antibiotics, even if they are requested<br>▪ Discuss with members ways to treat symptoms |

## Resources

[1] National Committee for Quality Assurance, HEDIS® Measurement Year 2025 Volume 2 Technical Specifications for Health Plans