Rheumatoid Arthritis
Treatment Guidelines

5-Star Best Practices

Measure Description
The percentage of rheumatoid arthritis patients who were dispensed one or more prescriptions for an anti-rheumatic drug.

Metric
The percentage of patients who were diagnosed with rheumatoid arthritis at least two times during the measurement year and who were dispensed at least one ambulatory prescription for a disease modifying anti-rheumatic drug (DMARD).

How Physicians Can Improve on This 5-Star Measure

> Confirm rheumatoid arthritis diagnosis versus a different rheumatologic disease, osteoarthritis or joint pain.
  - Best practice is to refer patients to a rheumatologist to confirm diagnosis and/or co-manage.
  - Consider using ICD-10 codes, such as M25.5x, for generalized joint pain while the patient's pain is being investigated. Use ICD-10 codes M05x and M06x once rheumatoid arthritis is confirmed. Other codes to consider when rheumatoid arthritis has not been established:
    - M19.0x – Other and unspecified osteoarthritis
    - M25.5x – Pain in joint
    - M25.6x – Stiffness of joint
    - M25.8x – Other specified joint disorders
    - M25.9x – Joint disorder, unspecified
  - To reinstate an encounter with an incorrect diagnosis code for rheumatoid arthritis, contact the medical group.
> Evaluate the risks, benefits and alternatives of DMARD for all patients with rheumatoid arthritis and prescribe when appropriate.

Description	DMARD Prescription		
5-Aminosalicylates	Sulfasalazine (T2)		
Alkylating agents	Cyclophosphamide capsules (T2)		
Aminoquinolines	Hydroxychloroquine (T2)		
Anti-rheumatics	Auranofin (T5) Gold sodium thiomalate (NF)	Leflunomide (T2) Methotrexate solution (inj) (T2)	Methotrexate tablets (T2) Penicillamine (T4)
Immunomodulators	Abatacept (NF) Adalimumab (T5) Anakinra (T5) Certolizumab (NF)	Certolizumab pegol (NF) Etanercept (T5) Golimumab (NF) Infliximab (T5)	Rituximab (T5) Tocilizumab (NF)
Immunosuppressive agents	Azathioprine (T2) Cyclosporine (T2)	Mycophenolate suspension (T5)	Mycophenolate tablets/capsules (T2)
Janus kinase (JAK) inhibitor	Tofacitinib (T5)		
Tetracyclines	Minocycline immediate release (T2)		

Table above is a list of DMARDs in the SCAN Formulary. Tier 2 (T2) drugs are generic with lower copays. Tier 5 (T5) are specialty tier drugs with various coinsurance for a 30-day supply. Prescriptions marked with (NF) are not in SCAN's Formulary.

  - See SCAN's Formulary for further information: https://www.scanhealthplan.com/providers/
  - A sample DMARD dispensed in the office will satisfy the measure but it must be documented properly.
    - Record in the medical record that a DMARD was dispensed. **Important**: You must include all of the following: prescriber's signature, drug name, strength, days' supply and dispensed date.
> For American College of Rheumatology guidelines, visit https://www.rheumatology.org/practice-quality/clinical-support/criteria.

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5-Star Best Practices

How the Managing Group Can Improve on This 5-Star Measure

> Provide all your physicians with provider instructions located on the reverse side.

> Best practice is to have a rheumatologist review all rheumatoid arthritis diagnoses.

> Ensure there is adequate access to rheumatologists for patients to schedule appointments.

> Document and distribute to your physicians what is needed to correct a rheumatoid arthritis diagnosis.

- Correct any incorrect rheumatoid arthritis diagnosis.
  - Diagnosis codes can be corrected through SCAN's provider portal or by submitting an ICE file.
  - Ensure appropriate staff has access to the provider portal.
  - Contact your SCAN encounter team representative for instructions or questions on how to use the provider portal or how to submit an ICE file at NetworkQuality@scanhealthplan.com.

Contact your SCAN network management for instructions or questions on how to use the provider portal or how to submit an ICE file:

NetworkQuality@scanhealthplan.com

Rheumatoid Arthritis ICD-10 Codes
M05.0X – Felty's syndrome
M05.1X – Rheumatoid lung disease with rheumatoid arthritis
M05.2X – Rheumatoid vasculitis with rheumatoid arthritis
M05.3X – Rheumatoid heart disease with rheumatoid arthritis
M05.4X – Rheumatoid myopathy with rheumatoid arthritis
M05.5X – Rheumatoid polyneuropathy with rheumatoid arthritis
M05.6X – Rheumatoid arthritis with involvement of other organs and systems
M05.7X – Rheumatoid arthritis with rheumatoid factor of site without organ or systems involvement
M05.8X – Other rheumatoid arthritis with rheumatoid factor
M05.9 – Rheumatoid arthritis with rheumatoid factor
M06.0X – Rheumatoid arthritis without rheumatoid factor
M06.1 – Adult-onset Still's disease
M06.2X – Rheumatoid bursitis
M06.3X – Rheumatoid nodule
M06.8X – Other specified rheumatoid arthritis
M06.9 – Rheumatoid arthritis, unspecified

"X" indicates a placeholder to further specify etiology, anatomic site, severity and other code extensions.