

Mathematica Guidance on Depression Screening measure denominator:

So I took a look at the current eMeasure specifications on the eCQI resource center for CMS2v4. The snippet below shows how they are structuring the denominator exceptions (note they are not exclusions but exceptions!):

- **Denominator Exceptions =**
 - OR: Union of:
 - "Risk Category Assessment not done: Medical or Other reason not done" for "Adolescent Depression Screening"
 - "Risk Category Assessment not done: Medical or Other reason not done" for "Adult Depression Screening"
 - "Risk Category Assessment not done: Patient Reason refused" for "Adolescent Depression Screening"
 - "Risk Category Assessment not done: Patient Reason refused" for "Adult Depression Screening"
 - during "Measurement Period"

They are using the QDM data type of "Risk category assessment – not done" with a value set of Medical or Other reason not done SNOMEDCT. (2.16.840.1.113883.3.600.1.1502)

This value set contains SNOMED codes that are vague in nature but center around a procedure being contraindicated due to the situation. I can't share the contents of the value set with you directly as it violates the copyright agreement.

So what does this all mean?

1. I think the primary guidance we give to the clinics should be chart review to determine if the patient was in an emergent situation.
2. A secondary set of guidance would be to instruct clinics to reference the CMS 2v4 logic and value sets IF they are currently reporting the measure as part of Meaningful Use stage 2 and report according to the measure specs.

I hope that this is helpful. I realize this information is dense and confusing. I am happy to discuss via phone if that is more helpful.

Juliet Rubini