# Eligible Professional Meaningful Use Core Measures Measure 9 of 14

Stage 1

Last Updated: April 2013

| Record Smoking Status | |
|---|---|
| Objective | Record smoking status for patients 13 years old or older. |
| Measure | More than 50 percent of all unique patients 13 years old or older seen by the EP have smoking status recorded as structured data. |
| Exclusion | Any EP who sees no patients 13 years or older. |

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## Definition of Terms

**Unique Patient** – If a patient is seen by an EP more than once during the EHR reporting period, then for purposes of measurement that patient is only counted once in the denominator for the measure. All the measures relying on the term ‘‘unique patient’’ relate to what is contained in the patient’s medical record. Not all of this information will need to be updated or even be needed by the provider at every patient encounter. This is especially true for patients whose encounter frequency is such that they would see the same provider multiple times in the same EHR reporting period.

## Attestation Requirements

NUMERATOR / DENOMINATOR / EXCLUSION

- DENOMINATOR: Number of unique patients age 13 or older seen by the EP during the EHR reporting period.
- NUMERATOR: Number of patients in the denominator with smoking status recorded as structured data.
- EXCLUSION: An EP who sees no patients 13 years or older would be excluded from this requirement. EPs must enter ‘0’ in the Exclusion box to attest to exclusion from this requirement.

The resulting percentage (Numerator ÷ Denominator) must be more than 50 percent in order for an EP to meet this measure.

## Additional Information

- The provider is permitted, but not required, to limit the measure of this objective to those patients whose records are maintained using certified EHR technology.
- This is a check of the medical record for patients 13 years old or older. If this information is already in the medical record available through certified EHR technology, an inquiry does not need to be made every time a provider sees a patient 13 years old or older. The frequency of updating this information is left to the provider and guidance is provided already from several sources in the medical community.

## Related Meaningful Use FAQs

To see the FAQs, click the New ID # hyperlinks below, or visit the CMS FAQ web page at https://questions.cms.gov/ and enter the New ID # into the Search Box, clicking the "FAQ #" option to view the answer to the FAQ. (Or you can enter the OLD # into the Search Box and click the "Text" option.)

- If an EP is unable to meet the measure of a meaningful use objective because it is outside of the scope of his or her practice, will the EP be excluded from meeting the measure of that objective? ***New ID #2883***, ***Old #10151***
- What do the numerators and denominators mean in measures that are required to demonstrate meaningful use? ***New ID #2813***, ***Old #10095***
- For EPs who see patients in both inpatient and outpatient settings, and where certified EHR technology is available at each location, should these EPs base their denominators for meaningful use objectives on the number of unique patients in only the outpatient setting or on the total number of unique patients from both settings? ***New ID #2765***, ***Old #10068***
- How does an EP determine whether a patient has been "seen by the EP" in cases where the service rendered does not result in an actual interaction between the patient and the EP, but minimal consultative services such as just reading an EKG? Is a patient seen via telemedicine included in the denominator for measures that include patients "seen by the EP"? ***New ID #3307***, ***Old ID #10664***
- When a patient is only seen by a member of the EP's clinical staff during the EHR reporting period and not by the EP themselves, do those patients count in the EP's denominator? ***New ID #3309***, ***Old ID #10665***
- Should patient encounters in an ambulatory surgical center be included in the denominator for calculating that at least 50 percent or more of an EP's patient encounters during the reporting period occurred at practices/locations equipped with certified EHR technology? ***New ID #3065***, ***Old ID #10466***
- If an EP sees a patient in a setting that does not have certified EHR technology but enters all of the patient's information into certified EHR technology at another practice location, can the patient be counted in the numerators and denominators of meaningful use measures? ***New ID #3077***, ***Old ID #10475***

## Certification and Standards Criteria

Below is the corresponding certification and standards criteria for electronic health record technology that supports achieving the meaningful use of this objective.

| Certification Criteria | |
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| §170.302(g) Smoking status | Enable a user to electronically record, modify, and retrieve the smoking status of a patient. Smoking status types must include: current every day smoker; current some day smoker; former smoker; never smoker; smoker, current status unknown; and unknown if ever smoked. |
| §170.302(n) Automated measure calculation | For each meaningful use objective with a percentage-based measure, electronically record the numerator and denominator and generate a report including the numerator, denominator, and resulting percentage associated with each applicable meaningful use measure. |

| Standards Criteria |
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| N/A |