The National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA) collects Healthcare Effectiveness Data and Information Set (HEDIS) measurements. Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Texas collects HEDIS data from our providers to measure and improve the quality of care our members receive.

The NCQA recommends the following for medical attention for nephropathy.

**Medical Attention for Nephropathy**

Document annual evaluation for nephropathy with one of the following:

- Nephropathy screening or monitoring test
- Visit to a nephrologist
- Treatment with ACE or ARB medication (written or filled prescription or member took medication)
- Medical attention for any of the following (no restriction on provider type): diabetic nephropathy, ESRD, chronic renal failure, chronic kidney disease, renal insufficiency, proteinuria, albuminuria, renal dysfunction, acute renal failure, dialysis, hemodialysis, peritoneal dialysis.
- Documentation of renal transplant

**Nephropathy Testing**

Any of the following meet criteria for a nephropathy screening or monitoring test. Documentation must include a note with date urine test was performed and the result or finding:

- 24-hour urine test for albumin or total protein
- Urine for albumin/creatinine or protein/creatinine ratio
- Spot urine for albumin or protein (e.g., dipstick or test strip)
- Timed urine for albumin or protein

**Medical Record Documentation and Best Practices**

- Test during an acute visit for members who are noncompliant with routine screenings
- Remind our members that diabetic kidney disease (like eye disease) may be asymptomatic
  - Regular tests can detect issues early
  - Early treatment may help delay disease progression
- Plan for members’ visits in advance when screening tests are due
  - For members with upcoming appointments, have medical assistants note (schedule or record) that a urine test for albumin or protein is needed
- Review lists of members who have missed an appointment or missed the nephropathy measurement
- Build care gap “alerts” in your electronic medical record

**CPT® Codes**

81000-81003, 81005: Urine Microalbumin Test
82042, 82043, 82044, 84156: Nephropathy Screening Test

**CPT II Codes**

3060F, 3061F, 3062F: Nephropathy Screening Test
3066F: Urine Microalbumin Test
4010F: ACE inhibitor/ARB

1 NCQA HEDIS 2020 Technical specifications for health plans, volume 2, Washington DC, 2020
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