



Depression Screening and Follow-Up for Adolescents and Adults (DSF-E)

The Depression Screening and Follow-Up for Adolescents and Adults measure assess patients 12 years of age and older who were screened for clinical depression using a standardized instrument and, if screened positive, received follow-up care during the measurement period.

- **Depression screening:** Patients who were screened for clinical depression using a standardized instrument
- **Follow-up on positive screen:** Patients who received follow-up care within 30 days of a positive depression screen finding

2026 technical updates:

- Added the PROMIS Emotional Distress – Depression – Short Form instrument to the list of depression screening instrumentals for adults 18+ years of age

Product lines	Quality programs affected	Collection and reporting method
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commercial • Medicaid • Medicare 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quality Rating System 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ECDS

Eligible screening tools:

A standard assessment instrument that has been normalized and validated for the appropriate patient population. Eligible screening instruments with thresholds for positive findings include:

Instruments for adolescents (≤17 years)	Positive finding
Patient Health Questionnaire (PHQ-9) [®]	Total score ≥10
Patient Health Questionnaire Modified for Teens (PHQ-9M) [®]	Total score ≥10
Patient Health Questionnaire-2 (PHQ-2) ^{®1}	Total score ≥3
Beck Depression Inventory-Fast Screen (BDI-FS) ^{®1,2}	Total score ≥8
Center for Epidemiologic Studies Depression Scale - Revised (CESD-R)	Total score ≥17
Edinburgh Postnatal Depression Scale (EPDS)	Total score ≥10
PROMIS Depression	Total score (T Score) ≥60
Instruments for adults (18+ years)	Positive finding
Patient Health Questionnaire (PHQ-9) [®]	Total score ≥10
Patient Health Questionnaire-2 (PHQ-2) ^{®1}	Total score ≥3
Beck Depression Inventory-Fast Screen (BDI-FS) ^{®1,2}	Total score ≥8
Beck Depression Inventory (BDI-II)	Total score ≥20
Center for Epidemiologic Studies Depression Scale-Revised (CESD-R)	Total score ≥17
Duke Anxiety-Depression Scale (DUKE-AD) ^{®2}	Total score ≥30
Geriatric Depression Scale Short Form (GDS) ¹	Total score ≥5
Geriatric Depression Scale Long Form (GDS)	Total score ≥10

Edinburgh Postnatal Depression Scale (EPDS)	Total score ≥ 10
My Mood Monitor (M-3) [®]	Total score ≥ 5
PROMIS Depression	Total score (T Score) ≥ 60
PROMIS Emotional Distress – Depression – Short Form	Total score (T Score) ≥ 60
Clinically Useful Depression Outcome Scale (CUDOS)	Total score ≥ 31

¹Brief screening instrument. All other instruments are full-length

²Proprietary; may be cost or licensing requirement associated with use

Numerator compliance	<p>Numerator 1: Depression screening Patients with a documented result for depression screening, using an age-appropriate standardized instrument, performed between January 1 and December 1 of the measurement period</p> <p>Numerator 2: Follow-up on positive screen Patients who received follow-up care on or up to 30 days after the date of the first positive screen (31 total days)</p> <p>Any of the following on or up to 30 days after the first positive screen:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> An outpatient, telephone, e-visit or virtual check-in follow-up visit with a diagnosis of depression or other behavioral health condition A depression case management encounter that documents assessment for symptoms of depression or a diagnosis of depression or other behavioral health condition A behavioral health encounter, including assessment, therapy, collaborative care or medication management A diagnosis of encounter for exercise counseling A dispensed antidepressant medication OR Documentation of additional depression screening on a full-length instrument indicating either no depression or no symptoms that require follow-up (i.e., a negative screen) on the same day as a positive screen on a brief screening instrument <p>Note: For example, if there is a positive screen resulting from a PHQ-2 score, documentation of a negative finding from a PHQ-9 performed on the same day qualifies as evidence of follow-up</p>	
	Description	Code type
Behavioral health encounter	CPT	90791, 90792, 90832, 90833, 90834, 90836, 90837, 90838, 90839, 90845, 90846, 90847, 90849, 90853, 90865, 90867, 90868, 90869, 90870, 90875, 90876, 90880, 90887, 99484, 99492, 99493
	HCPCS	G0155, G0176, G0177, G0409, G0410, G0411, G0511, G0512, H0002, H0004, H0031, H0034, H0035, H0036, H0037, H0039, H0040, H2000, H2001, H2010, H2011, H2012, H2013, H2014, H2015, H2016, H2017, H2018, H2019, H2020, S0201, S9480, S9484, S9485
	UBREV	0900, 0901, 0902, 0903, 0904, 0905, 0907, 0911, 0912, 0913, 0914, 0915, 0916, 0917, 0919

	SNOMED	5694008, 10197000, 10997001, 38756009, 45392008, 79094001, 88848003, 90407005, 91310009, 165171009, 165190001, 225337009, 370803007, 372067001, 385721005, 385724002, 385725001, 385726000, 385727009, 385887004, 385889001, 385890005, 401277000, 410223002, 410224008, 410225009, 410226005, 410227001, 410228006, 410229003, 410230008, 410231007, 410232000, 410233005, 410234004, 439141002
Depression case management encounter	CPT	99366, 99492, 99493, 99494
	HCPCS	G0512, T1016, T1017, T2022, T2023
	SNOMED	182832007, 225333008, 385828006, 386230005, 409022004, 410216003, 410219005, 410328009, 410335001, 410346003, 410347007, 410351009, 410352002, 410353007, 410354001, 410356004, 410360001, 410363004, 410364005, 410366007, 416341003, 416584001, 424490002, 425604002, 737850002, 1344983001, 1344984007, 1344994002, 1345003009, 1345013001, 1345014007, 621561000124106, 661051000124109, 662081000124106, 662541000124107, 842901000000108
Follow-up visit	CPT	98000, 98001, 98002, 98003, 98004, 98005, 98006, 98007, 98008, 98009, 98010, 98011, 98012, 98013, 98014, 98015, 98016, 98960, 98961, 98962, 98966, 98967, 98968, 98969, 98970, 98971, 98972, 99078, 98980, 98981, 99078, 99201, 99202, 99203, 99204, 99205, 99211, 99212, 99213, 99214, 99215, 99242, 99243, 99244, 99245, 99341, 99342, 99344, 99345, 99347, 99348, 99349, 99350, 99381, 99382, 99383, 99384, 99385, 99386, 99387, 99391, 99392, 99393, 99394, 99395, 99396, 99397, 99401, 99402, 99403, 99404, 99411, 99412, 99421, 99422, 99423, 99441, 99442, 99443, 99457, 99458, 99483
	HCPCS	G0071, G0463, G2010, G2012, G2250, G2251, G2252, T1015
	UBREV	0510, 0513, 0516, 0517, 0519, 0520, 0521, 0522, 0523, 0526, 0527, 0528, 0529, 0982, 0983
	SNOMED	42137004, 50357006, 86013001, 90526000, 108220007, 108221006, 185317003, 185389009, 281036007, 314849005, 386472008, 386473003, 390906007, 401267002, 406547006, 870191006
Exercise counseling	ICD10 diagnosis	Z71.82
Patient Health Questionnaire 9 item (PHQ-9) total score [Reported]	LOINC	44261-6
Geriatric depression scale (GDS) total	LOINC	48544-1
Geriatric depression scale (GDS) short version total	LOINC	48545-8
Patient Health Questionnaire 2 item (PHQ-2) total score [Reported]	LOINC	55758-7

Edinburgh Postnatal Depression Scale [EPDS]	LOINC	99046-5
Total score [M3]	LOINC	71777-7
PROMIS-29 Depression score T-score	LOINC	71965-8
PROMIS Emotion Distress – Depression – Short Form	LOINC	77861-3
Patient Health Questionnaire-9: Modified for Teens total score [Reported.PHQ.Teen]	LOINC	89204-2
Center for Epidemiologic Studies Depression Scale-Revised total score [CESD-R]	LOINC	89205-9
Beck Depression Inventory Fast Screen total score [BDI]	LOINC	89208-3
Beck Depression Inventory II total score [BDI]	LOINC	89209-1
Total Score [CUDOS]	LOINC	90221-3
Exclusions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Patients with a history of bipolar disorder any time during the member's history through the end of the year prior to the measurement period • Patients with depression that starts during the year prior to the measurement period • Patients who use hospice services or elect to use a hospice benefit any time during the measurement period 	

Tips and best practices

- Screen patients 12 years of age and older for depression using a standardized instrument and document the result
- Whenever possible, depression screening and treatment are culturally appropriate and offered in the patient's first language
- Educate patients regarding the warning signs for depression and advise to seek early treatment
- Options for community counselors and psychiatry are available for patients interested in that option if screened positive
- If screened positive, ensure that appropriate follow-up is established for the patient within 30 days