

★ AAD 5: Biopsy: Reporting Time – Clinician to Patient — National Quality Strategy  
Domain: Communication and Care Coordination

**DESCRIPTION:**

Percentage of patients with skin biopsy specimens with a diagnosis of cutaneous basal or squamous cell carcinoma (including in situ disease) who are notified of their final biopsy pathology findings within less than or equal to 14 days from the time the biopsy was performed.

**High Priority Measure:** Yes

**Meaningful Measure Area:** Transfer of Health Information and Interoperability

**Risk-Adjusted:** No

**Inverse Measure:** No

**Proportional Measure:** Yes

**Continuous Variable Measure:** No

**Ratio Measure:** No

**INSTRUCTIONS:**

The following measure is to be reported for every biopsy performed during the reporting period that is consistent with a cutaneous basal or squamous cell carcinoma (including in situ disease). This measure may be reported by clinicians who perform the quality actions described in the measure based on the services provided and the measure-specific denominator coding.

**Measure Reporting via Registry**

ICD-10-CM diagnosis codes, CPT codes or HCPCS codes and patient demographics are used to identify patients who are included in the measure's denominator. The listed numerator options are used to report the numerator of the measure.

The quality-data codes listed do not need to be submitted for registry-based submissions; however, these codes may be submitted for those registries that utilize claims data.

**DENOMINATOR:**

The eligible population

**Denominator Criteria (Eligible Cases):**

**Eligible Specialties** Dermatology

**Eligible Providers** Medical Doctor (MD), Doctor of Osteopathy (DO), Physician Assistant (PA), Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (APRN)

**Ages** 18 and older at the start of the measurement period

**Patient with Diagnosis**

Diagnosis of basal cell carcinoma OR

Diagnosis of squamous cell carcinoma OR

Diagnosis of carcinoma of the skin in situ

**Event** Cutaneous biopsy/ biopsies that are performed during the measurement period

If a patient has more than one biopsy procedure date during the measurement period (separate procedures on separate days), a procedure based record would be submitted for each separate date of procedure

**Diagnosis Codes for Identifying Patients with Basal Cell Carcinoma, Squamous Cell Carcinoma or Carcinoma in Situ of the skin:**

<b>ICD-10 Codes</b>	<b>Code Description</b>
C44.01	Basal cell carcinoma of skin of lip
C44.02	Squamous cell carcinoma of skin of lip
C44.111	Basal cell carcinoma of skin of unspecified eyelid, including canthus
C44.1121	Basal cell carcinoma of skin of right upper eyelid, including canthus
C44.1122	Basal cell carcinoma of skin of right lower eyelid, including canthus
C44.1191	Basal cell carcinoma of skin of left upper eyelid, including canthus
C44.1192	Basal cell carcinoma of skin of left lower eyelid, including canthus
C44.121	Squamous cell carcinoma of skin of unspecified eyelid, including canthus
C44.1221	Squamous cell carcinoma of skin of right upper eyelid, including canthus
C44.1222	Squamous cell carcinoma of skin of right lower eyelid, including canthus
C44.1291	Squamous cell carcinoma of skin of left upper eyelid, including canthus
C44.1292	Squamous cell carcinoma of skin of left lower eyelid, including canthus
C44.211	Basal cell carcinoma of skin of unspecified ear and external auricular canal
C44.212	Basal cell carcinoma of skin of right ear and external auricular canal
C44.219	Basal cell carcinoma of skin of left ear and external auricular canal
C44.221	Squamous cell carcinoma of skin of unspecified ear and external auricular canal
C44.222	Squamous cell carcinoma of skin of right ear and external auricular canal
C44.229	Squamous cell carcinoma of skin of left ear and external auricular canal
C44.310	Basal cell carcinoma of skin of unspecified parts of face
C44.311	Basal cell carcinoma of skin of nose
C44.319	Basal cell carcinoma of skin of other parts of face
C44.320	Squamous cell carcinoma of skin of unspecified parts of face
C44.321	Squamous cell carcinoma of skin of nose
C44.329	Squamous cell carcinoma of skin of other parts of face
C44.41	Basal cell carcinoma of skin of scalp and neck
C44.42	Squamous cell carcinoma of skin of scalp and neck
C44.510	Basal cell carcinoma of anal skin
C44.511	Basal cell carcinoma of skin of breast
C44.519	Basal cell carcinoma of skin of other part of trunk
C44.520	Squamous cell carcinoma of anal skin
C44.521	Squamous cell carcinoma of skin of breast
C44.529	Squamous cell carcinoma of skin of other part of trunk
C44.611	Basal cell carcinoma of skin of unspecified upper limb, including shoulder
C44.612	Basal cell carcinoma of skin of right upper limb, including shoulder
C44.619	Basal cell carcinoma of skin of left upper limb, including shoulder
C44.621	Squamous cell carcinoma of skin of unspecified upper limb, including shoulder
C44.622	Squamous cell carcinoma of skin of right upper limb, including shoulder
C44.629	Squamous cell carcinoma of skin of left upper limb, including shoulder
C44.711	Basal cell carcinoma of skin of unspecified lower limb, including hip
C44.712	Basal cell carcinoma of skin of right lower limb, including hip
C44.719	Basal cell carcinoma of skin of left lower limb, including hip
C44.721	Squamous cell carcinoma of skin of unspecified lower limb, including hip
C44.722	Squamous cell carcinoma of skin of right lower limb, including hip
C44.729	Squamous cell carcinoma of skin of left lower limb, including hip
C44.81	Basal cell carcinoma of overlapping sites of skin
C44.82	Squamous cell carcinoma of overlapping sites of skin
C44.91	Basal cell carcinoma of skin, unspecified

C44.92	Squamous cell carcinoma of skin, unspecified
D04.0	Carcinoma in situ of skin of lip
D04.10	Carcinoma in situ of skin of unspecified eyelid, including canthus
D04.111	Carcinoma in situ of skin of right upper eyelid, including canthus
D04.112	Carcinoma in situ of skin of right lower eyelid, including canthus
D04.121	Carcinoma in situ of skin of left upper eyelid, including canthus
D04.122	Carcinoma in situ of skin of left lower eyelid, including canthus
D04.20	Carcinoma in situ of skin of unspecified ear and external auricular canal
D04.21	Carcinoma in situ of skin of right ear and external auricular canal
D04.22	Carcinoma in situ of skin of left ear and external auricular canal
D04.30	Carcinoma in situ of skin of unspecified part of face
D04.39	Carcinoma in situ of skin of other parts of face
D04.4	Carcinoma in situ of skin of scalp and neck
D04.5	Carcinoma in situ of skin of trunk
D04.60	Carcinoma in situ of skin of unspecified upper limb, including shoulder
D04.61	Carcinoma in situ of skin of right upper limb, including shoulder
D04.62	Carcinoma in situ of skin of left upper limb, including shoulder
D04.70	Carcinoma in situ of skin of unspecified lower limb, including hip
D04.71	Carcinoma in situ of skin of right lower limb, including hip
D04.72	Carcinoma in situ of skin of left lower limb, including hip
D04.8	Carcinoma in situ of skin of other sites
D04.9	Carcinoma in situ of skin, unspecified

#### **CPT Codes for Identifying Cutaneous Biopsies:**

<b>CPT Codes</b>	<b>Code Description</b>
11100	Biopsy of skin, subcutaneous tissue and/or mucous membrane (including simple closure), unless otherwise listed; single lesion
11101	Biopsy of skin, subcutaneous tissue and/or mucous membrane (including simple closure), unless otherwise listed; each separate additional lesion
11755	Biopsy of nail unit (e.g. plate, bed, matrix, hyponychium, proximal and lateral nail folds)
40490	Biopsy of lip
54100	Biopsy of penis
56605	Biopsy of vulva or perineum; one lesion
56606	Biopsy of vulva or perineum; each separate additional lesion
67810	Incisional biopsy of eyelid skin including lid margin
69100	Biopsy of external ear

#### **NUMERATOR:**

The number of patients in the denominator who are informed of their final biopsy pathology findings within less than or equal to 14 days from the time the biopsy was performed.

Acceptable communication methods include:

- Directly speaking with the patient or a person designated by the patient to discuss this lab result
- Documented telephone message or voice mail regarding the availability of lab result
- Mailer/fax sent to the patient indicating the availability of lab result or discussing the diagnosis itself

- Any HIPAA secure electronic communication with the patient discussing the diagnosis

Exclusions:

Pathology reports for tissue specimens produced from excision

**CPT Codes for Identifying Excisions:**

*\*\*CPT Codes for Excision for Malignant Lesions is defined as a full thickness (through the dermis) removal of a lesion including margins*

<b>CPT Codes</b>	<b>Code Description</b>
11600	Excision, malig lesion incl. margins, trunk, arms or legs, excised diameter 0.5 cm or less
11601	Excision, malig lesion incl. margins, trunk, arms or legs, excised diameter 0.6 to 1.0 cm
11602	Excision, malig lesion incl. margins, trunk, arms or legs, excised diameter 1.1 to 2.0 cm
11603	Excision, malig lesion incl. margins, trunk, arms or legs, excised diameter 2.1 to 3.0 cm
11604	Excision, malig lesion incl. margins, trunk, arms or legs, excised diameter 3.1 to 4.0 cm
11606	Excision, malig lesion incl. margins, trunk, arms or legs, excised diameter greater than 4.0 cm
11620	Excision, malig lesion incl. margins, scalp, neck, hands, feet, genitalia, excised diam 0.5 cm or less
11621	Excision, malig lesion incl. margins, scalp, neck, hands, feet, genitalia, excised diam 0.6 to 1.0 cm
11622	Excision, malig lesion incl. margins, scalp, neck, hands, feet, genitalia, excised diam 1.1 to 2.0 cm
11623	Excision, malig lesion incl. margins, scalp, neck, hands, feet, genitalia, excised diam 2.1 to 3.0 cm
11624	Excision, malig lesion incl. margins, scalp, neck, hands, feet, genitalia, excised diam 3.1 to 4.0 cm
11626	Excision, malig lesion incl. margins, face, ears, eyelids, nose, lips, excised diam greater 4.0 cm
11640	Excision, malig lesion incl. margins, face, ears, eyelids, nose, lips, excised diam 0.5 cm or less
11641	Excision, malig lesion incl. margins, face, ears, eyelids, nose, lips, excised diam 0.6 to 1.0 cm
11642	Excision, malig lesion incl. margins, face, ears, eyelids, nose, lips, excised diam 1.1 to 2.0 cm
11643	Excision, malig lesion incl. margins, face, ears, eyelids, nose, lips, excised diam 2.1 to 3.0 cm
11644	Excision, malig lesion incl. margins, face, ears, eyelids, nose, lips, excised diam 3.1 to 4.0 cm
11646	Excision, malig lesion incl. margins, face, ears, eyelids, nose, lips, excised diam greater 4.0 cm

Potential Benchmarks:

80% - it is anticipated that <20% of the time, more than 14 days will be needed regardless of the cause (i.e.: second opinion needed / special stains / inclement weather / care coordination / etc.)

**RATIONALE:**

The communication between pathologists and physicians about patient outcomes is fragmented. Effective communication through the biopsy report between the two practitioners is essential; as delay may directly affect patient care. Furthermore, lack of timely delivery can increase the cost of medical care, error and the anxiety the patient experiences in waiting for results. This measure seeks to standardize the amount of time it takes for the clinician to notify patients of the final biopsy results, to ensure timely communication and effective treatment for

the patient.

**CLINICAL RECOMMENDATION STATEMENTS:**

This measure will assess the percentage of patients who are notified of their pathology findings within 14 after having a skin biopsy performed that has a diagnosis of cBCC, SCC, or SCCis. The higher the rate of performance indicates better quality of care.

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