**Measure #264: Sentinel Lymph Node Biopsy for Invasive Breast Cancer – National Quality Strategy**  
**Domain: Effective Clinical Care**

**2017 OPTIONS FOR INDIVIDUAL MEASURES:**
REGISTRY ONLY

**MEASURE TYPE:**
Process

**DESCRIPTION:**
The percentage of clinically node negative (clinical stage T1N0M0 or T2N0M0) breast cancer patients who undergo a sentinel lymph node (SLN) procedure

**INSTRUCTIONS:**
This measure is to be reported each time a procedure is performed during the performance period for patients age 18 years and older who are operated upon for invasive breast cancer that are clinically node negative (clinical stage T1N0M0 or T2N0M0). This measure may be reported by eligible clinicians who perform the quality actions described in the measure based on the services provided and the measure-specific denominator coding.

**Measure Reporting:**
The listed denominator criteria is used to identify the intended patient population. The numerator options included in this specification are used to submit the quality actions allowed by 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:**
Patients aged 18 and older with primary invasive breast cancer

**Denominator Criteria (Eligible Cases):**
Patients aged 18 and older at date of encounter  
AND  
**Diagnosis for Female/Male Breast Cancer (ICD-10-CM):** C50.011, C50.012, C50.019, C50.021, C50.022, C50.029, C50.111, C50.112, C50.119, C50.121, C50.122, C50.129, C50.211, C50.212, C50.219, C50.221, C50.222, C50.229, C50.311, C50.312, C50.319, C50.321, C50.322, C50.329, C50.411, C50.412, C50.419, C50.421, C50.422, C50.429, C50.511, C50.512, C50.519, C50.521, C50.522, C50.529, C50.611, C50.612, C50.619, C50.621, C50.622, C50.629, C50.811, C50.812, C50.819, C50.821, C50.822, C50.829, C50.911, C50.912, C50.919, C50.921, C50.922, C50.929  
AND  
**Patient encounter during the performance period (CPT):** 19301, 19302, 19307, 38500, 38510, 38520, 38525, 38530, 38542, 38740, 38745, 38900  
AND  
**Clinically Node Negative (T1N0M0 or T2N0M0) Invasive Breast Cancer:** G8879

**NUMERATOR:**
Patients who undergo a SLN procedure

**Numerator Options:**  
**Performance Met:** Sentinel lymph node biopsy procedure performed (G8878)
**Denominator Exception:** Documentation of reason(s) sentinel lymph node biopsy not performed (e.g., reasons could include but not limited to; non-invasive cancer, incidental discovery of breast cancer on prophylactic mastectomy, incidental discovery of breast cancer on reduction mammoplasty, pre-operative biopsy proven lymph node (LN) metastases, inflammatory carcinoma, stage 3 locally advanced cancer, recurrent invasive breast cancer, patient refusal after informed consent) **(G8880)**

**OR**

**Performance Not Met:** Sentinel lymph node biopsy procedure not performed, reason not given **(G8882)**

**RATIONALE:**
A sentinel lymph node (SLN) procedure is defined as a method of axillary or other regional lymph node assessment that requires either a radioisotope and/or blue dye injection in the breast with subsequent identification of radioactive or blue stained node(s) in the axilla or other lymph node basin. There is level one evidence that breast cancer SLN biopsy is as accurate as axillary dissection for breast cancer staging and is associated with less morbidity than routine axillary dissection.

**CLINICAL RECOMMENDATION STATEMENTS:**
The current body of reported surgical experience shows that SLN biopsy is suitable for virtually all clinically node-negative T1-2 invasive breast cancers. (The American Society of Breast Surgeons, 2010)

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2017 Registry Individual Measure Flow

#264: Sentinel Lymph Node Biopsy for Invasive Breast Cancer

Start

Denominator

Patient Age at Date of Service ≥ 18 Years

Yes

Numerator

Sentinel Lymph Node Biopsy Procedure Performed

Yes

Data Completeness Met + Performance Met G8878 or equivalent (4 procedures) a

No

Data Completeness Met + Denominator Exception G8880 or equivalent (1 procedure) b

Diagnosis of Male/Female Breast Cancer as Listed in Denominator*

No

Encounter as Listed in Denominator* (1/1/2017 thru 12/31/2017)

Yes

Documented Reason(s) Sentinel Lymph Node Biopsy Not Performed

Yes

Data Completeness Met + Denominator Exception G8892 or equivalent (2 procedures) c

No

Sentinel Lymph Node Biopsy Procedure Not Performed, Reason Not Given

Yes

Data Completeness Not Met Quality Data Code or equivalent not reported (1 procedure)

No

Include in Eligible Population/Denominator (8 procedures) d

Not Included in Eligible Population/Denominator

SAMPLE CALCULATIONS:

Data Completeness =
Performance Met (a=4 procedures) + Denominator Exception (b=1 procedure) + Performance Not Met (c=2 procedures) = 7 procedures = 87.50% Eligible Population / Denominator (d=8 procedures)

Performance Rate =
Performance Met (a=4 procedures) = 4 procedures = 66.67%
Data Completeness Numerator (7 procedures) – Denominator Exception (b=1 procedure) = 6 procedures

*See the posted Measure Specification for specific coding and instructions to report this measure.

NOTE: Reporting Frequency: Procedure

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The measure diagrams were developed by CMS as a supplemental resource to be used in conjunction with the measure specifications. They should not be used alone or as a substitution for the measure specification.
2017 Registry Individual Measure Flow

#264: Sentinel Lymph Node Biopsy for Invasive Breast Cancer

Please refer to the specific section of the Measure Specification to identify the denominator and numerator information for use in reporting this Individual Measure.

1. Start with Denominator

2. Check Patient Age:
   a. If the Age is greater than or equal to 18 years of age on Date of Service and equals No during the measurement period, do not include in Eligible Patient Population. Stop Processing.
   b. If the Age is greater than or equal to 18 years of age on Date of Service and equals Yes during the measurement period, proceed to check Patient Diagnosis.

3. Check Patient Diagnosis:
   a. If Diagnosis of Male/Female Breast Cancer as Listed in Denominator equals No, do not include in Eligible Patient Population. Stop Processing.
   b. If Diagnosis of Male/Female Breast Cancer as Listed in Denominator equals Yes, proceed to check Encounter Performed.

4. Check Encounter Performed:
   a. If Encounter as Listed in the Denominator equals No, do not include in Eligible Patient Population. Stop Processing.
   b. If Encounter as Listed in the Denominator equals Yes, proceed to check Clinically node negative (T1N0M0 or T2N0M0) invasive breast cancer.

5. Check Clinically node negative (T1N0M0 or T2N0M0) invasive breast cancer:
   a. If Clinically Node Negative (T1N0M0 or T2N0M0) Invasive Breast Cancer equals No, do not include in Eligible patient population. Stop processing
   b. If Clinically Node Negative (T1N0M0 or T2N0M0) Invasive Breast Cancer equals Yes, include in Eligible patient population.

6. Denominator Population:
   a. Denominator population is all Eligible Patients in the denominator. Denominator is represented as Denominator in the Sample Calculation listed at the end of this document. Letter d equals 8 procedures in the sample calculation.

7. Start Numerator

8. Check Sentinel Lymph Node Biopsy Procedure Performed:
   a. If Sentinel Lymph Node Biopsy Procedure Performed equals Yes, include in Data Completeness Met and Performance Met.
   b. Data Completeness Met and Performance Met letter is represented in the Data Completeness and Performance Rate in the Sample Calculation listed at the end of this document. Letter a equals 4 procedures in Sample Calculation.
c. If Sentinel Lymph Node Biopsy Procedure Performed equals No, proceed to Documentation of Reason(s) Sentinel Lymph Node Biopsy Not Performed.

9. Check Documentation of Reason(s) Sentinel Lymph Node Biopsy Not Performed:
   a. If Documentation of Reason(s) Sentinel Lymph Node Biopsy Not Performed equals Yes, include in Data Completeness Met and Denominator Exception.
   b. Data Completeness Met and Denominator Exception letter is represented in the Data Completeness and Performance Rate in the Sample Calculation listed at the end of this document. Letter b equals 1 procedure in the Sample Calculation.
   c. If Documentation of Reason(s) Sentinel Lymph Node Biopsy Not Performed equals No, proceed to Sentinel Lymph Node Biopsy Procedure Not Performed, Reason Not Given.

10. Check Sentinel Lymph Node Biopsy Procedure Not Performed, Reason Not Given:
    a. If Sentinel Lymph Node Biopsy Procedure Not Performed, Reason Not Given equals Yes, include in the Data Completeness Met and Performance Not Met.
    b. Data Completeness Met and Performance Not Met letter is represented in the Data Completeness in the Sample Calculation listed at the end of this document. Letter c equals 2 procedures in the Sample Calculation.
    c. If Sentinel Lymph Node Biopsy Procedure Not Performed, Reason Not Given equals No, proceed to Data Completeness Not Met

11. Check Data Completeness Not Met
    a. If Data Completeness Not Met equals No, Quality Data Code or equivalent not reported. 1 procedure has been subtracted from data completeness numerator in the sample calculation.

**SAMPLE CALCULATIONS:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Data Completeness</th>
<th>Performance Met (a=4 procedures)</th>
<th>Denominator Exception (b=1 procedure)</th>
<th>Performance Not Met (c=2 procedures)</th>
<th>7 procedures</th>
<th>87.50%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Eligible Population / Denominator (d=8 procedures)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Performance Rate</th>
<th>Performance Met (a=4 procedures)</th>
<th>4 procedures</th>
<th>66.67%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Data Completeness Numerator (7 procedures) – Denominator Exception (b=1 procedure)</td>
<td>6 procedures</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>