MEASURE #: ASBS 3

MEASURE TITLE: Specimen orientation for partial mastectomy or excisional breast biopsy

NATIONAL QUALITY STRATEGY DOMAIN: Communication and Care Coordination

MEASURE DESCRIPTION: Percentage of patients age 18 and older undergoing a therapeutic breast surgical procedure considered an initial partial mastectomy or “lumpectomy” for a diagnosed cancer or an excisional biopsy for a lesion that is not clearly benign based on previous biopsy or clinical and radiographic criteria with surgical specimens properly oriented for pathologic analysis such that six margins can be identified.

NUMERATOR: Number of patients age 18 and older undergoing a therapeutic breast surgical procedure considered an initial partial mastectomy or “lumpectomy” for a diagnosed cancer or an excisional biopsy for a lesion that is not clearly benign based on previous biopsy or clinical and radiographic criteria with surgical specimens properly oriented for pathologic analysis such that six margins can be identified.

DENOMINATOR: Number of patients age 18 and older undergoing a therapeutic breast surgical procedure considered an initial partial mastectomy or “lumpectomy” for a diagnosis of cancer or an excisional biopsy for a lesion that is not clearly benign based on previous biopsy or clinical and radiographic criteria.

ICD-9 Codes – Female breast cancer 174.0 - 174.9, Male breast cancer 175.0 -175.9
Disorders of the breast – 610.0-611.9
Neoplasms (benign) - 238.3 – Breast, uncertain behavior
Imaging abnormalities – 793.80 to 793.89
Open surgical procedures include (CPT 2009):
  19120 Open/excisional biopsy
  19125 Open excisional biopsy identified by radiologic marker
  19301 Partial mastectomy
  19302 Partial mastectomy with axillary dissection
  19110 Nipple exploration with or without excision

Exclusions: 19303:Total/Simple/Complete Mastectomy, Mastectomy with sentinel lymph node
19304: Subcutaneous mastectomy
19306: Radical mastectomy
19307:Modified radical mastectomy
Excision skin lesion of breast
Breast Nipple excision
**Risk Adjustment:** CPT codes 19120 Open/excisional biopsy, 19125 Open excisional biopsy identified by radiologic marker, and 19110 Nipple exploration with or without excision to compare to 19301 Partial mastectomy and 19302 Partial mastectomy with axillary dissection

**RATIONALE AND CLINICAL RECOMMENDATIONS:**
Breast specimen orientation is crucial to determine the location of surgical margin pathologic status. Margin status strongly correlates with the local recurrence rate and the subsequent need for reexcision.

Multiple breast specimen orientation techniques may be used (these include stitches, clips and ink).

For those patients with known or suspected breast carcinoma undergoing preserving surgery, proper breast specimen orientation allows for targeted re-excision. A non-oriented specimen may lead to increased volume loss, worse cosmesis and lower likelihood of successful breast preservation. Specimen orientation is also necessary In patients undergoing excisional biopsy after a minimally invasive breast biopsy demonstrated a “high risk” lesion of the breast because breast cancer may be identified. High risk lesions include but are not limited to any lesion with atypia or lobular carcinoma in situ.

**CARE SETTING:** All surgical settings including ambulatory and inpatient services

**PUBLIC DOMAIN:** Yes

**OUTSIDE ENDORSEMENT:** No


**REFERENCES:**
ASBD Colloquium on “gaps in care” (www.asbd.org)
ASBS Position Statement on Concordance Assessment of Image-Guided Breast Biopsies and Management of Borderline or High-Risk Lesions. www.breastsurgeons.org/statements