Defining the Six Conditions of the Depression Screening in EQRS
Overview and Objectives

What will be reviewed:

- The six conditions and its definitions
- Various definitions to know
- Depression screening tools and their criteria
The Six Conditions in EQRS

1. Screening for clinical depression is documented as being “positive,” and a follow-up plan is documented

2. Screening for clinical depression documented as “positive,” and a follow-up plan not documented, and the facility possess documentation stating the patient is not eligible

3. Screening for clinical depression documented as “positive,” the facility possesses no documentation of a follow-up plan, and no reason is given

4. Screening for clinical depression is documented as “negative,” and a follow-up plan is not required

5. Screening for clinical depression not documented, but the facility possesses documentation stating the patient is not eligible

6. Clinical depression screening not documented, and no reason is given
Definitions to Know

Positive and Negative

Positive screening -
• Based on the scoring and interpretation of the specific standardized tool used, and through discussion during the patient visit, the provider should determine if the patient is deemed positive for signs of depression

Negative screening -
• Based on the scoring and interpretation of the specific standardized tool used, and through discussion during the patient visit, the provider should determine if the patient is deemed negative for signs of depression
Definitions to Know
Follow-Up Plans

~ A documented outline of care for a positive depression screening

A follow-up plan has at least one of the following:

• Additional evaluation for depression
• Suicide risk assessment
• Referral to a practitioner who is qualified to diagnose and treat depression
• Pharmacological interventions
• Other interventions or follow-up for the diagnosis or treatment of depression
Definitions to Know

Patients Who are Not Eligible

Not eligible for follow-up –
• A patient may not be eligible for follow-up plan, or it may not be appropriate for a patient to undergo treatment or therapy for depression because such treatments are medically contraindicated

Not eligible for screening – A patient is not eligible for depression screening if one or more of the following reasons are documented in the patient’s medical record:
• Patient refuses to participate
• Patient is in an urgent or emergent situation where time is of the essence and to delay treatment would jeopardize the patient’s health status
• Situations where the patient’s functional capacity or motivation to improve may impact the accuracy of results of standardized depression assessment tools (e.g., certain court-appointed cases; cases of delirium)
• Patient has an active diagnosis of depression
• Patient has a diagnosed bipolar disorder
Depression Screening Tool

- Patient Health Questionnaire-9 (PHQ-9) – other languages available [HERE](#)
- Patient Health Questionnaire for Adolescents (PHQ-A)
- Center of Epidemiologic Studies Depression Scale (CES-D 10)
- Beck Depression Inventory (BDI)
- Hamilton Depression Rating Scale (HDRS)
- Geriatric Depression Scale (GDS)
- Generalized Anxiety Disorder-7 (GAD-7) – other languages available [HERE](#)
Criteria for Evaluating Screening Tools

Screening tools may vary significantly in a number of areas

- Availability in multiple languages suitable for the facility’s patients
- Method(s) of administration (e.g., survey taken by patient independently; administered by staff member verbally to the patient)
- Required literacy level/medical knowledge on the part of the patient to understand and respond accurately to the tool’s questions
- Applicability to multiple facility requirements (e.g., screening tool specified by the Physician Quality Reporting System (PQRS) – will it also be applicable for screening ESRD patients?)
- Ability to distinguish between somatic pain and depression in patients with ESRD (due to similar characteristics)
Additional Resources

Available on the IPRO knowledge portal

- Clinical Depression Screening and Follow Up Reporting in EQRS
- Entering Patient Clinical Depression Assessment in EQRS
- Reporting in EQRS
Thank You

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