



# Use of Imaging in Low Back Pain

November 2020

## Measure Description

The percentage of patients with a primary diagnosis of low back pain who did not have an imaging study (plain X-ray, MRI, CT scan) within 28 days of the diagnosis.

## Evaluation Period

January 1-December 31 of the Calendar Year

## Numerator

An imaging study with a diagnosis of uncomplicated low back pain on the IESD or in the 28 days following the IESD.

Condition Description	# Event	Detailed Criteria
Imaging Study	1	<p>CPT Codes (72010, 72020, 72052, 72100, 72110, 72114, 72120, 72131, 72132, 72133, 72141, 72142, 72146, 72147, 72148, 72149, 72156, 72158, 72200, 72202, 72220)</p> <p>UBREV Codes (0320, 0329, 0350, 0352, 0359, 0610, 0612, 0614, 0619, 0972)</p>

## Denominator

18 years as of January 1 of the measurement year to 50 years as of December 31 of the measurement year who had a primary diagnosis of low back pain AND any of the following visits:

- Outpatient visit
- Observation visit - Do not include observation visits that result in an inpatient stay (Inpatient Stay Value Set). An observation visit results in an inpatient stay when the ED/observation visit date of service and the admission date for the inpatient stay are one calendar day apart or less.
- ED visit - Do not include ED visits that result in an inpatient admission. An ED visit results in an inpatient stay when the ED visit date of service and the admission date for the inpatient stay are one calendar day apart or less.
- Osteopathic or chiropractic manipulative treatment
- Physical therapy visit



- Telehealth visit

**Uncomplicated Low Back Pain:**

Condition Description	# Event	Detailed Criteria
Uncomplicated Low Back Pain	1	<p>ICD-10CM Codes (M47.26, M47.27, M47.28, M47.816, M47.817, M47.818, M47.896, M47.897, M47.898, M48.06, M48.07, M47.08, M51.16, M51.17, M51.26, M51.27, M51.36, M51.37, M51.86, M51.87, M53.2X6, M53.2X7, M53.2X8, M53.3, M53.86, M53.87, M53.88, M54.16, M54.17, M54.18, M54.30, M54.31, M54.32, M54.40, M54.41, M54.42, M54.5, M54.89, M54.9, M99.03, M99.04, M99.23, M99.33, M99.43, M99.53, M99.63, M99.73, M99.83, M99.84, S33.100A, S33.100D, S33.100S, S33.110A, S33.110D, S33.110S, S33.120A, S33.120D, S33.120S, S33.130A, S33.130D, S33.130S, S33.140A, S33.140D, S33.140S, S33.5XXA, S33.6XXA, S33.8XXA, S33.9XXA, S39.002A, S39.002D, S39.002S, S39.012A, S39.012D, S39.012S, S39.092A, S39.092D, S39.092S, S39.82XA, S39.82XD, S39.82XS, S39.92XA, S39.92XD, S39.92XS)</p> <p>ICD-9CM Codes (721.3, 721.90, 722.10, 722.52, 722.6, 724.02, 724.2, 724.3, 724.5, 724.6, 724.70, 724.71, 724.79, 738.5, 739.3, 739.4, 846.0, 846.1, 846.2, 846.3, 846.8, 846.9, 847.2)</p>

AND one of the following during the intake period

Condition Description	# Event	Detailed Criteria
Outpatient Visit	1	<p>CPT Codes (99201-99205, 99211-99215, 99241-99245, 99341-99345, 99347-99350, 99381-99387, 99391-99397, 99401-99404, 99411, 99412, 99420, 99429, 99455, 99456)</p> <p>UBREV Codes (0510, 0511, 0512, 0513, 0514, 0515, 0516, 0517, 0519, 0520, 0521, 0522, 0523, 0526, 0527, 0528, 0529, 0982, 0983)</p>
Observation Visit	1	CPT Codes (99217, 99218, 99219, 99220)
ED Visit	1	CPT Codes (99281, 99282, 99283, 99284, 99285)



		UBREV Codes (0450, 0451, 0452, 0456, 0459, 0981)
Osteopathic and Chiropractic Manipulative Treatment	1	CPT Codes (98925, 98926, 98927, 98928, 98929, 98940, 98941, 98942)
Physical Therapy	1	CPT Codes (97110, 97112, 97113, 97124, 97140)
Telehealth	1	CPT Codes (98966, 98967, 98968, 98969, 99441, 99442, 99443, 99444)

## Denominator Exclusions

Exclude patients with any uncomplicated low back pain diagnosis during the 180 days (6 months) prior to the IESD.

Exclude any patient who had a diagnosis for which imaging is clinically appropriate. Any of the following meet criteria:

Condition Description	# Event	Detailed Criteria
Cancer - any time during the patient's history through 28 days after the IESD	1	ICD10 Codes (Z85.50, Z85.51, Z85.520, Z85.528, Z85.53, Z85.54, Z85.59, Z85.6, Z85.71, Z85.72, Z85.79, Z85.810, Z85.818, Z85.819, Z85.820, Z85.821, Z85.828, Z85.830, Z85.831, Z85.840, Z85.841, Z85.848, Z85.850, Z85.858, Z85.89, Z85.9, Z86.000, Z86.001, Z86.008, Z86.03, C81.00, C81.01, C81.02, C81.03, C81.04, C81.05, C81.06, C81.07, C81.08, C81.09, C81.10, C81.11, C81.12, C81.13, C81.14, C81.15, C81.16, C81.17, C81.18, C81.19, C81.20, C81.21, C81.22, C81.23, C81.24, C81.25, C81.26, C81.27, C81.28, C81.29, C81.30, C81.31, C81.32, C81.33, C81.34, C81.35, C81.36, C81.37, C81.38, C81.39, C81.40, C81.41, C81.42, C81.43, C81.44, C81.45, C81.46, C81.47, C81.48, C81.49, C81.70, C81.71, C81.72, C81.73, C81.74, C81.75, C81.76, C81.77, C81.78, C81.79, C81.90, C81.91, C81.92, C81.93, C81.94, C81.95, C81.96, C81.97, C81.98, C81.99, C82.00, C82.01, C82.02, C82.03, C82.04, C82.05, C82.06, C82.07, C82.08, C82.09, C82.10, C82.11, C82.12, C82.13, C82.14, C82.15, C82.16, C82.17, C82.18, C82.19, C82.20, C82.21, C82.22, C82.23, C82.24, C82.25, C82.26, C82.27, C82.28, C82.29, C82.30, C82.31, C82.32, C82.33, C82.34, C82.35, C82.36, C82.37, C82.38, C82.39, C82.40, C82.41, C82.42, C82.43, C82.44, C82.45, C82.46, C82.47, C82.48, C82.49, C82.50, C82.51, C82.52, C82.53, C82.54, C82.55, C82.56, C82.57, C82.58, C82.59, C82.60, C82.61, C82.62, C82.63, C82.64, C82.65, C82.66,



		<p> C82.67, C82.68, C82.69, C82.80, C82.81, C82.82,  C82.83, C82.84, C82.85, C82.86, C82.87, C82.88,  C82.89, C82.90, C82.91, C82.92, C82.93, C82.94,  C82.95, C82.96, C82.97, C82.98, C82.99, C83.00,  C83.01, C83.02, C83.03, C83.04, C83.05, C83.06,  C83.07, C83.08, C83.09, C83.10, C83.11, C83.12,  C83.13, C83.14, C83.15, C83.16, C83.17, C83.18,  C83.19, C83.30, C83.31, C83.32, C83.33, C83.34,  C83.35, C83.36, C83.37, C83.38, C83.39, C83.50,  C83.51, C83.52, C83.53, C83.54, C83.55, C83.56,  C83.57, C83.58, C83.59, C83.70, C83.71, C83.72,  C83.73, C83.74, C83.75, C83.76, C83.77, C83.78,  C83.79, C83.80, C83.81, C83.82, C83.83, C83.84,  C83.85, C83.86, C83.87, C83.88, C83.89, C83.90,  C83.91, C83.92, C83.93, C83.94, C83.95, C83.96,  C83.97, C83.98, C83.99, C84.00, C84.01, C84.02,  C84.03, C84.04, C84.05, C84.06, C84.07, C84.08,  C84.09, C84.10, C84.11, C84.12, C84.13, C84.14,  C84.15, C84.16, C84.17, C84.18, C84.19, C84.40,  C84.41, C84.42, C84.43, C00.0, C00.1, C00.2, C00.3,  C00.4, C00.5, C00.6, C00.8, C00.9, C01, C02.0, C02.1,  C02.2, C02.3, C02.4, C02.8, C02.9, C03.0, C03.1,  C03.9, C04.0, C04.1, C04.8, C04.9, C05.0, C05.1,  C05.2, C05.8, C05.9, C06.0, C06.1, C06.2, C06.80,  C06.89, C06.9, C07, C08.0, C08.1, C08.9, C09.0, C09.1,  C09.8, C09.9, C10.0, C10.1, C10.2, C10.3, C10.4,  C10.8, C10.9, C11.0, C11.1, C11.2, C11.3, C11.8,  C11.9, C12, C13.0, C13.1, C13.2, C13.8, C13.9, C14.0,  C14.2, C14.8, C15.3, C15.4, C15.5, C15.8, C15.9,  C16.0, C16.1, C16.2, C16.3, C16.4, C16.5, C16.6,  C16.8, C16.9, C17.0, C17.1, C17.2, C17.3, C17.8,  C17.9, C18.0, C18.1, C18.2, C18.3, C18.4, C18.5,  C18.6, C18.7, C18.8, C18.9, C19, C20, C21.0, C21.1,  C21.2, C21.8, C22.0, C22.1, C22.2, C22.3, C22.4,  C22.7, C22.8, C22.9, C23, C24.0, C24.1, C24.8, C24.9,  C25.0, C25.1, C25.2, C25.3, C25.4, C25.7, C25.8,  C25.9, C26.0, C26.1, C26.9, C30.0, C30.1, C31.0,  C31.1, C31.2, C31.3, C31.8, C31.9, C32.0, C32.1,  C32.2, C32.3, C32.8, C32.9, C33, C34.00, C34.01,  C34.02, C34.10, C34.11, C34.12, C34.2, C34.30,  C34.31, C34.32, C34.80, C34.81, C34.82, C34.90,  C34.91, C34.92, C37, C38.0, C38.1, C38.2, C38.3,  C38.4, C38.8, C39.0, C39.9, C40.00, C40.01, C40.02,  C40.10, C40.11, C40.12, C40.20, C40.21, C40.22,  C40.30, C40.31, C40.32, C40.80, C40.81, C40.82,  C40.90, C40.91, C40.92, C41.0, C41.1, C41.2, C41.3,  C41.4, C41.9, C43.0, C43.10, C43.11, C43.12, C43.20,  C43.21, C43.22, C43.30, C43.31, C43.39, C43.4,  C43.51, C43.52, C43.59, C43.60, C43.61, C43.62,  C43.70, C43.71, C43.72, C43.8, C43.9, C44.00, C44.01,  C44.02, C44.09, C44.101, C44.102, C44.109, C44.111,  C44.112, C44.119, C44.121, C44.122, C44.129,  C44.191, C44.192, C44.199, C44.201, C44.202, </p>
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		C44.209, C44.211, C44.212, C44.219, C44.221, C44.222, C44.229, C44.291, C44.292, C44.299, C44.300, C44.301, C44.309, C44.310, C44.311, C44.319, C44.320, C44.321, C44.329, C44.390, C44.391, C44.399, C44.40, C44.41, C44.42, C44.49, C44.500, C44.501, C44.509, C44.510, C44.511, C44.519, C44.520, C44.521, C44.529, C44.590, C44.591, C44.599, C44.601, C44.602, C44.609, C44.611, C44.612, C44.619)
Recent Trauma - 3 months (90 days) prior to the IESD through 28 days after the IESD	1	ICD 10 Codes (S02.0XXA, S02.0XXB, S02.0XXD, S02.0XXG, S02.0XXK, S02.0XXS, S02.10XA, S02.10XB, S02.10XD, S02.10XG, S02.10XK, S02.10XS, S02.110A, S02.110B, S02.110D, S02.110G, S02.110K, S02.110S, S02.111A, S02.111B, S02.111D, S02.111G, S02.111K, S02.111S, S02.112A, S02.112B, S02.112D, S02.112G, S02.112K, S02.112S, S02.113A, S02.113B, S02.113D, S02.113G, S02.113K, S02.113S, S02.118A, S02.118B, S02.118D, S02.118G, S02.118K, S02.118S, S02.119A, S02.119B, S02.119D, S02.119G, S02.119K, S02.119S, S02.19XA, S02.19XB, S02.19XD, S02.19XG, S02.19XK, S02.19XS, S02.2XXA, S02.2XXB, S02.2XXD, S02.2XXG, S02.2XXK, S02.2XXS, S02.3XXA, S02.3XXB, S02.3XXD, S02.3XXG, S02.3XXK, S02.3XXS, S02.400A, S02.400B, S02.400D, S02.400G, S02.400K, S02.400S, S02.401A, S02.401B, S02.401D, S02.401G, S02.401K, S02.401S, S02.402A, S02.402B, S02.402D, S02.402G, S02.402K, S02.402S, S02.411A, S02.411B, S02.411D, S02.411G, S02.411K, S02.411S, S02.412A, S02.412B, S02.412D, S02.412G, S02.412K, S02.412S, S02.413A, S02.413B, S02.413D, S02.413G, S02.413K, S02.413S, S02.42XA, S02.42XB, S02.42XD, S02.42XG, S02.42XK, S02.42XS, S02.600A, S02.600B, S02.600D, S02.600G, S02.600K, S02.600S, S02.609A, S02.609B, S02.609D, S02.609G, S02.609K, S02.609S, S02.61XA, S02.61XB, S02.61XD, S02.61XG, S02.61XK, S02.61XS, S02.62XA, S02.62XB, S02.62XD, S02.62XG, S02.62XK, S02.62XS, S02.63XA, S02.63XB, S02.63XD, S02.63XG, S02.63XK, S02.63XS, S02.64XA, S02.64XB, S02.64XD, S02.64XG, S02.64XK, S02.64XS, S02.65XA, S02.65XB, S02.65XD, S02.65XG, S02.65XK, S02.65XS, S02.66XA, S02.66XB, S02.66XD, S02.66XG, S02.66XK, S02.66XS, S02.67XA, S02.67XB, S02.67XD, S02.67XG, S02.67XK, S02.67XS, S02.69XA, S02.69XB, S02.69XD, S02.69XG, S02.69XK, S02.69XS, S02.8XXA, S02.8XXB, S02.8XXD, S02.8XXG, S02.8XXK, S02.8XXS, S02.91XA, S02.91XB, S02.91XD, S02.91XG, S02.91XK, S02.91XS, S02.92XA, S02.92XB, S02.92XD, S02.92XG, S02.92XK, S02.92XS, S03.0XXA, S03.0XXD, S03.0XXS, S03.1XXA, S03.1XXD, S03.1XXS, S06.0X0A, S06.0X0D, S06.0X0S, S06.0X1A, S06.0X1D, S06.0X1S, S06.0X2A, S06.0X2D, S06.0X2S, S06.0X3A, S06.0X3D, S06.0X3S, S06.0X4A, S06.0X4D, S06.0X4S, S06.0X5A, S06.0X5D, S06.0X5S, S06.0X6A, S06.0X6D, S06.0X6S, S06.0X7A, S06.0X7D, S06.0X7S, S06.0X8A, S06.0X8D,



		S06.0X8S, S06.0X9A, S06.0X9D, S06.0X9S, S06.1X0A, S06.1X0D, S06.1X0S, S06.1X1A, S06.1X1D, S06.1X1S, S06.1X2A, S06.1X2D, S06.1X2S, S06.1X3A, S06.1X3D, S06.1X3S, S06.1X4A, S06.1X4D, S06.1X4S, S06.1X5A, S06.1X5D, S06.1X5S, S06.1X6A, S06.1X6D, S06.1X6S, S06.1X7A, S06.1X7D, S06.1X7S, S06.1X8A, S06.1X8D, S06.1X8S, S06.1X9A, S06.1X9D, S06.1X9S, S06.2X0A, S06.2X0D)
Intravenous drug abuse - any time during the 12 months (1 year) prior to the IESD through 28 days after the IESD	1	ICD10 Codes (F11.10, F11.120, F11.121, F11.121, F11.122, F11.129, F11.14, F11.150, F11.151, F11.159, F11.181, F11.182, F11.188, F11.19, F11.20, F11.21, F11.220, F11.220, F11.221, F11.222, F11.229, F11.23, F11.24, F11.250, F11.251, F11.259, F11.281, F11.282, F11.288, F11.29, F13.10, F13.120, F13.121, F13.129, F13.14, F13.150, F13.151, F13.159, F13.180, F13.181, F13.182, F13.188, F13.19, F13.20, F13.21, F13.220, F13.221, F13.229, F13.230, F13.231, F13.232, F13.239, F13.24, F13.250, F13.251, F13.26, F13.27, F13.280, F13.281, F13.282, F13.282, F13.29, F14.10, F14.10, F14.120, F14.121, F14.122, F14.129, F14.14, F14.150, F14.151, F14.159, F14.180, F14.181, F14.182, F14.188, F14.19, F14.20, F14.21, F14.220, F14.221, F14.222, F14.229, F14.23, F14.23, F14.24, F14.250, F14.251, F14.259, F14.280, F14.281, F14.282, F14.288, F14.29, F15.10, F15.120, F15.121, F15.122, F15.129, F15.14, F15.150, F15.151, F15.159, F15.180, F15.181, F15.182, F15.188, F15.19, F15.20, F15.21, F15.220, F15.221, F15.222, F15.229, F15.23, F15.24, F15.250, F15.251, F15.259, F15.280, F15.281, F15.282, F15.288, F15.29)  ICD9 Codes (304.00, 304.01, 304.02, 304.03, 304.10, 304.11, 304.12, 304.13, 304.20, 304.21, 304.22, 304.23, 304.40, 304.41, 304.42, 304.43, 305.40, 305.41, 305.42, 305.43, 305.50, 305.51, 305.52, 305.53, 305.60, 305.61, 305.62, 305.63, 305.70, 305.71, 305.72, 305.73)
Neurologic impairment - any time during the 12 months (1 year) prior to the IESD through 28 days after the IESD	1	ICD10 Codes (G83.4, 344.60)
HIV - any time during the patient's history through 28 days after the IESD	1	ICD10 Codes (B20, Z21, 042, V08)
Spinal infection - any time during the 12 months (1	1	ICD10 Codes (A17.81, G06.1, M46.25, M46.26, M46.27, M46.28, M46.35, M46.36, M46.37, M46.38, M46.46,



year) prior to the IESD through 28 days after the IESD.		M46.47, M46.48, O13.50, O13.51, O13.52, O13.53, O13.54, O13.55, O13.56)  ICD9 Codes (324.1, 324.9, 722.93, 730.28)
Major organ transplant - any time in the patient's history through 28 days after the IESD.	1	CPT Codes (32850-32856, 33930, 33933, 33935, 33940, 33944, 33945, 44132-44137, 44715, 44720, 44721, 47133, 47135, 47136, 47140-47147, 48160, 48550-48554, 48556, 50300, 50320, 50340, 50360, 50365, 50370, 50380)  HCPCS Codes (S2053, S2054, S2055, S2060, S2061, S2152, S2065)  ICD10 Codes (Z94.0, 0TY00Z0, 0TY00Z1, 0TY00Z2, 0TYZ0, 0TY10Z1, 0TY0Z2, 02AY0Z0, 02YA0Z1, 02YAZ2, 07YP0Z0, 07YP0Z1, 07YP0Z2, 0BYC0Z0, 0BYC0Z1, 0BYC0Z2, 0BYD0Z0, 0BY0Z1, 0BYD0Z2, 0BYF0Z0, 0BYF0Z1, 0BYF0Z2, 0BYG0Z0, 0BYG0Z1, 0BYG0Z2, 0BYH0Z0, 0BYH0Z1, 0BYH0Z2, 0BYJ0Z0, 0BYJ0Z1, 0BYJ0Z2, 0BYK0Z0, 0BYK0Z1, 0BYK0Z2, 0BYL0Z0, 0BYL0Z1, 0BYL0Z2, 0BYM0Z0, 0BYM0Z1, 0BYM0Z2, 0DY80Z0, 0DY80Z1, 0DY80Z2, 0DYE0Z0, 0DYE0Z1, 0DYE0Z2, 0FY00Z0, 0FY00Z1, 0FY00Z2, 0FYG0Z0, 0FYG0Z1, 0FYG0Z2)  ICD9 Codes (V42.0, 55.61, 55.69, 33.50, 33.51, 33.52, 33.6, 37.51, 41.94, 46.97, 50.51, 50.59, 52.80, 52.81, 52.82, 52.83, 52.84, 52.85, 52.86)  UBREV Codes (0362, 0367, 0810, 0810, 0811, 0812, 0813, 0819)
Prolonged use of corticosteroids - 90 consecutive days of corticosteroid treatment any time during the 12 months (1 year) prior to and including the IESD.	1	To identify consecutive treatment days, identify calendar days covered by at least one dispensed corticosteroid. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hydrocortisone</li> <li>• Cortisone</li> <li>• Prednisone</li> <li>• Prednisolone</li> <li>• Methylprednisolone</li> <li>• Triamcinolone</li> <li>• Dexamethasone</li> <li>• Betamethasone</li> </ul> For overlapping prescriptions, assume the patient started taking the second prescription after exhausting the first prescription. For example, if a patient had a 30-day prescription dispensed on June 1 and a 30-day prescription dispensed on June 26, there are 60 covered calendar days (June 1–July 30). Count only medications dispensed during the 12 months (1 year) prior to and including the IESD. When identifying consecutive treatment days, do not count days supply that extend beyond the IESD. For example, if a patient had a 90-



		day prescription dispensed on the IESD, there is one covered calendar day (the IESD).
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**Notes**

- Measure Steward is NCQA

