



# Eligible Professional Meaningful Use Core Measures Measure 7 of 15

Stage 1

Date issued: November 7, 2010

Record Demographics	
Objective	Record all of the following demographics: (A) Preferred language (B) Gender (C) Race (D) Ethnicity (E) Date of birth
Measure	More than 50 percent of all unique patients seen by the EP have demographics recorded as structured data.
Exclusion	No exclusion.

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## Definition of Terms

**Preferred Language** – The language by which the patient prefers to communicate.

**Unique Patient** – If a patient is seen by an EP more than once during the EHR reporting period, then for purposes of measurement that patient is only counted once in the denominator for the measure. All the measures relying on the term “unique patient” relate to what is contained in the patient’s medical record. Not all of this information will need to be updated or even be needed by the provider at every patient encounter. This is especially true for patients whose encounter frequency is such that they would see the same provider multiple times in the same EHR reporting period.

## Attestation Requirements

### NUMERATOR / DENOMINATOR

- DENOMINATOR: Number of unique patients seen by the EP during the EHR reporting period.
- NUMERATOR: Number of patients in the denominator who have all the elements of demographics (or a specific exclusion if the patient declined to provide one or more elements or if recording an element is contrary to state law) recorded as structured data.

The resulting percentage (Numerator ÷ Denominator) must be more than 50 percent in order for an EP to meet this measure.

## Additional Information

- Race and ethnicity codes should follow current federal standards published by the Office of Management and Budget ([http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/inforeg\\_statpolicy/#dr](http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/inforeg_statpolicy/#dr)).
- If a patient declines to provide all or part of the demographic information, or if capturing a patient's ethnicity or race is prohibited by state law, such a notation entered as structured data would count as an entry for purposes of meeting the measure. In regards to patients who do not know their ethnicity, EPs should treat these patients the same way as patients who decline to provide race or ethnicity— identify in the patient record that the patient declined to provide this information.
- EPs are not required to communicate with the patient in his or her preferred language in order to meet the measure of this objective.

## Related FAQs

- **#10095** - What do the numerators and denominators mean in measures that are required to demonstrate meaningful use?
- **#10068** - For EPs who see patients in both inpatient and outpatient settings, and where certified EHR technology is available at each location, should these EPs base their denominators for meaningful use objectives on the number of unique patients in only the outpatient setting or on the total number of unique patients from both settings?
- **#10664** - How does an EP determine whether a patient has been "seen by the EP" in cases where the service rendered does not result in an actual interaction between the patient and the EP, but minimal consultative services such as just reading an EKG? Is a patient seen via telemedicine included in the denominator for measures that include patients "seen by the EP"?
- **#10665** - When a patient is only seen by a member of the EP's clinical staff during the EHR reporting period and not by the EP themselves, do those patients count in the EP's denominator?
- **#10466** - Should patient encounters in an ambulatory surgical center be included in the denominator for calculating that at least 50 percent or more of an EP's patient encounters during the reporting period occurred at practices/locations equipped with certified EHR technology?
- **#10475** - If an EP sees a patient in a setting that does not have certified EHR technology but enters all of the patient's information into certified EHR technology at another practice location, can the patient be counted in the numerators and denominators of meaningful use measures?