



2009 Monitoring for Diabetic Nephropathy

BCN clinical practice guidelines state a urine **microalbumin** should be performed upon diagnosis of diabetes and annually thereafter in the absence of previously demonstrated **microalbuminuria** or kidney disease.

HEDIS 2009 Specifications for Diabetic Nephropathy can be met by any of the following tests, visits or treatments:

1. 24 hour urine **microalbumin**
2. timed urine for **microalbumin**
3. spot urine for **microalbumin***
4. urine **microalbumin/creatinine** ratio
5. 24 hour urine for total protein
6. random urine for protein/creatinine ratio
7. Any claim for a visit with a nephrologist
8. Medical attention for any of the following (no restriction on provider type)
 - Diabetic nephropathy
 - End stage renal disease (ESRD)
 - Chronic renal failure (CRF)
 - Renal insufficiency
 - Proteinuria
 - Albuminuria
 - Renal dysfunction
 - Acute renal failure (ARF)
 - Dialysis, hemodialysis or peritoneal dialysis
9. A positive urine **MACROalbumin** test during the measurement year. Documentation in the medical record must include a note indicating the date on which the test was performed, and a positive result as follows:
 - Positive urinalysis (random, spot or timed) for protein
 - Positive urine (random, spot or timed) for protein
 - Positive urine dipstick for protein
 - Positive tablet reagent for urine protein
 - Positive result for albuminuria
 - Positive result for **MACROalbuminuria**
 - Positive result for proteinuria
 - Positive result for gross proteinuria
 - **NOTE: "Trace" urine MACROalbumin test results are not considered adequate to meet this standard.**
10. Evidence of ACE Inhibitor/ARB therapy during the measurement year. Documentation must include a note indicating the member received an ambulatory prescription for ACE/ARB within the measurement year.

***In-office microalbumin reagent dipstick testing is easy...and it's billable**

1. Reagent test dipsticks specifically designed to measure **microalbumin** (Micral [Roche] or Clinitek [Bayer] are available through most clinical supply vendors.
2. **Microalbumin** reagent strips differ from those used to perform routine urinalysis that measure **MACROalbumin** only.
3. **Microalbumin** dipstick testing is billable using CPT-4 code 82044.