

Social Needs Screening and Intervention (SNS-E): Food



Social determinants of health significantly impact patient outcomes, and identifying and addressing unmet social needs can reduce hospitalizations, improve treatment adherence, and enhance overall patient well-being. This is why Social Needs Screening and Education (SNS-E) is important. For the Exchange product line, the measurement period runs from January 1 to December 31, focusing on patients 17 to 65 years. To implement SNS-E effectively, providers should integrate screening questions into routine patient assessments, use various screening tools for comprehensive evaluations, document findings in the patient's medical record, and provide referrals to appropriate community resources. Additionally, providers are responsible for educating staff on the importance of SNS-E, ensuring screenings are conducted annually or as needed, and collaborating with social workers and case managers for intervention follow-ups.

Eligible screening instruments with thresholds for positive findings include:		
Food Insecurity Instruments	Screening Item LOINC Codes	Positive Finding* LOINC Codes
Accountable Health Communities (AHC) Health-Related Social Needs (HRSN) Screening Tool	88122-7 Within the past 12 months, you worried that your food would run out before you got money to buy more	LA28397-0 Often True LA6729-3 Sometimes True
	88123-5 Within the past 12 months, the food you bought just didn't last and you didn't have money to get more	LA28397-0 Often True LA6729-3 Sometimes True
American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP) Social Needs Screening Tool	88122-7 Within the past 12 months, you worried that your food would run out before you got money to buy more	LA28397-0 Often True LA6729-3 Sometimes True
	88123-5 Within the past 12 months, the food you bought just didn't last and you didn't have money to get more	LA28397-0 Often True LA6729-3 Sometimes True
American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP) Social Needs Screening Tool—short form	88122-7 Within the past 12 months, you worried that your food would run out before you got money to buy more	LA28397-0 Often True LA6729-3 Sometimes True
	88123-5 Within the past 12 months, the food you bought just didn't last and you didn't have money to get more	LA28397-0 Often True LA6729-3 Sometimes True
U.S. Household Food Security Survey — Six-Item Short Form “U.S. FSS”	95264-8 Food security status	LA30985-8 Low food security LA30986-6 Very low food insecurity
We Care Survey	96434-6 Do you always have enough food for your family?	LA32-8 No
WellRx Questionnaire	93668-2 In the past two months, did you or others you live with eat smaller meals or skip meals because you didn't have money for food?	LA33-6 Yes
Health Leads Screening Panel®1	95251-5 In the last 12 months, did you ever eat less than you felt you should because there wasn't enough money for food?	LA33-6 Yes

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Eligible screening instruments with thresholds for positive findings include:		
Food Insecurity Instruments	Screening Item LOINC Codes	Positive Finding* LOINC Codes
Hunger Vital Sign™ ¹ (HVS)	88124-3 Food insecurity risk	LA19952-3 At risk
Protocol for Responding to and Assessing Patients' Assets, Risks, and Experiences "PRAPARE" ^{®1}	93031-3 In the past year, have you or any family members you live with been unable to get any of the following when it was really needed?	LA30125-1 Foodv
Safe Environment for Every Kid (SEEK) ^{®1}	95400-8 In the past 12 months, did you worry that your food would run out before you could buy more?	LA33-6 Yes
	95399-2 In the past 12 months, did the food you bought just not last and you didn't have money to get more?	LA33-6 Yes

*Intervention screening codes for positive finding:		
Code	Definition	Code System
96156	Food insecurity procedures	CPT
96160	Food insecurity procedures	CPT
96161	Food Insecurity Procedures	CPT
97802	Food Insecurity Procedures	CPT
97803	Food Insecurity Procedures	CPT
97804	Food Insecurity Procedures	CPT
S5170	Home-delivered meals, including preparation; per meal (S5170)	HCPCS
S9470	Nutritional counseling, dietitian visit (S9470)	HCPCS

NOTE: The information listed here is not all-inclusive and should be used as a reference only. Please refer to current ICD-10/CPT[®]/HCPCS coding and documentation guidelines found at www.cms.gov. HEDIS[®] measures can be found at www.ncqa.org.