

# **Clinical Decision Support (CDS) Content and Health Level 7 (HL7)-Compliant Knowledge Artifacts (KNARTs)**

## **Women's Health: Osteoporosis Screening Age 45 to under 65 Clinical Content White Paper**

**Department of Veterans Affairs (VA)**



**Knowledge Based Systems (KBS)  
Office of Informatics and Information Governance (OIIG)  
Clinical Decision Support (CDS)**

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# Clinical Decision Support (CDS) Content and Health Level 7 (HL7)-Compliant Knowledge Artifacts (KNARTs): Women's Health: Osteoporosis Screening Age 45 to under 65 Clinical Content White Paper

by Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), , , , and

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**Table 1. Relevant KNART Information: Women's Health: Osteoporosis Screening Age 45 to under 65**

Women's Health KNART	Associated CLIN
Osteoporosis Screening Age 45 to under 65 - Event-Condition-Action (ECA) Rule	CLIN0007BA
Osteoporosis Screening Age 45 to under 65 - Documentation Template	CLIN0005AB
Osteoporosis Screening Age 45 to under 65 - Order Set	CLIN0008CA

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# Table of Contents

VA Subject Matter Expert (SME) Panel .....	vii
Introduction .....	viii
Conventions Used .....	ix
1. Women's Health: Osteoporosis Screening Age 45 to Under 65 .....	1
1.1 Clinical Context .....	1
1.2 Knowledge Artifacts .....	1
2. Event Condition Action (ECA) Rule: Osteoporosis Screening .....	3
Knowledge Narrative .....	3
Outpatient Visit, $\geq 65$ Years of Age, No Prior Dual-Energy X-ray Absorptiometry (DXA) .....	3
Outpatient Visit, $< 65$ Years of Age .....	4
$\geq 15$ Years Since Previous Dual-Energy X-ray Absorptiometry (DXA) Scan, $\geq 65$ Years of Age, Most Recent T-Score $\geq -1.5$ .....	4
5 Years Since Previous Dual-Energy X-ray Absorptiometry (DXA) Scan, $\geq 65$ Years of Age, Most Recent T-Score is $> -2.0$ and $< -1.5$ .....	5
1 Year Since Previous Dual-Energy X-ray Absorptiometry (DXA) Scan, $\geq 65$ Years of Age, Most Recent T-Score is $\geq -2.49$ and $\leq -2$ .....	6
Patient-Preferred Screening Interval .....	7
3. Documentation Template: Osteoporosis Screening .....	8
Knowledge Narrative .....	8
Patient Preference for Screening .....	8
Age $\geq 65$ Years .....	8
Age $< 65$ Years and Postmenopausal .....	9
4. Order Set: Osteoporosis Screening .....	11
Knowledge Narrative .....	11
Laboratory Testing .....	11
Imaging Studies .....	11
Patient and Caregiver Education .....	11
Consults and Referrals .....	12
Bibliography/Evidence .....	13
A. Existing Sample VA Artifacts .....	14
B. Basic Laboratory Panel Definition .....	16
C. Logic Diagrams .....	17

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## List of Figures

A.1. Reminder Resolution: Osteoporosis Screen .....	14
A.2. Reminder Resolution: Osteoporosis Education .....	15
C.1. Osteoporosis Screening Event-Condition-Action (ECA) Rule .....	17

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# List of Tables

1. Relevant KNART Information: Women's Health: Osteoporosis Screening Age 45 to under 65 ..... ii

1.1. Clinical Context Domains ..... 1

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# Introduction

The VA is committed to improving the ability of clinicians to provide care for patients while increasing quality, safety, and efficiency. Recognizing the importance of standardizing clinical knowledge in support of this goal, VA is implementing the Health Level 7 (*HL7*) Knowledge Artifact Specification for a wide range of VA clinical use cases. Knowledge Artifacts, referred to as (*KNARTs*), enable the structuring and encoding of clinical knowledge so the knowledge can be integrated with electronic health records to enable clinical decision support.

The purpose of this Clinical Content White Paper (*CCWP*) is to capture the clinical context and intent of *KNART* use cases in sufficient detail to provide the *KNART* authoring team with the clinical source material to construct the corresponding knowledge artifacts using the HL7 Knowledge Artifact Specification. This paper has been developed using material from a variety of sources: VA artifacts, clinical practice guidelines, evidence in the body of medical literature, and clinical expertise. After reviewing these sources, the material has been synthesized and harmonized under the guidance of VA subject matter experts to reflect clinical intent for this use case.

Unless otherwise noted, items within this white paper (e.g., documentation template fields, orderable items, etc.) are chosen to reflect the clinical intent at the time of creation. To provide an exhaustive list of all possible items and their variations is beyond the scope of this work.



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# Conventions Used

Conventions used within the knowledge artifact descriptions include:

<obtain>: Indicates a prompt to obtain the information listed

- If possible, the requested information should be obtained from the underlying system(s). Otherwise, prompting the user for information may be required
- Default Values: Unless otherwise noted, <obtain> indicates to obtain the most recent observation. It is recognized that this default time-frame value may be altered by future implementations

[...]: Square brackets enclose explanatory text that indicates some action on the part of the clinical user, or general guidance to the clinical or technical teams. Examples include, but are not limited to:

[Begin ...], [End ...]: Indicates the start and end of specific areas to clearly delineate them for technical purposes.

[Activate ...]: Initiates another knowledge artifact or knowledge artifact section.

[Section Prompt: ...]: If this section is applicable, then the following prompt should be displayed to the user.

[Section Behavior: ...]: Indicates technical constraints or considerations for the selection of items outlined in the section prompt.

[Attach: ...]: Indicates that the specified item (e.g. procedure or result interpretation) should be attached to the documentation template if available.

[Link: ...]: Indicates that rather than attaching an item (e.g. image), a link should be included in the documentation template.

[Clinical Comment: ...]: Indicates technical considerations or notes to be utilized for KNART authoring and at time of implementation planning.

[Technical Note: ...]: Indicates technical considerations or notes to be utilized for KNART authoring and at time of implementation planning.

[If ...]: Indicates the beginning of a conditional section.

[Else, ...]: Indicates the beginning of the alternative branch of a conditional section.

[End if ...]: Indicates the end of a conditional section.

# [Check box]: Indicates items that should be selected based upon the section selection behavior.

---

# Chapter 1. Women's Health: Osteoporosis Screening Age 45 to Under 65

## 1.1 Clinical Context

[Begin Clinical Context.]

Osteoporosis is a highly prevalent condition with significant attendant morbidity. As osteoporosis is generally silent until a fracture occurs, it is imperative that patients who are at risk be screened according to evidence-based guidelines. Such screening is consistent with public health initiatives and is highly cost-effective, as the cost of care for preventable osteoporosis-related fractures is considerable [American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (*ACOG*) 2012; US Preventive Services Task Force (*USPSTF*) 2015]. Fostering adherence across the VA to guideline-recommended screening for osteoporosis could improve resource utilization and promote good patient care.

The latest guidelines chosen by the VA will be used for these knowledge artifacts. In addition, other constraints for these artifacts are that they apply to:

Women aged  $\geq 45$  <65 years, with no documented history of osteopenia/osteoporosis, who are outpatients.

Clinical context is summarized in the table below.

**Table 1.1. Clinical Context Domains**

Target User	To include primary care and designated women's health providers.
Patient	Females aged $\geq 45$ <65 years
Priority	Routine
Specialty	Primary Care and Gynecology
Location	Outpatient

[End Clinical Context.]

## 1.2 Knowledge Artifacts

[Begin Knowledge Artifacts.]

This section describes the CDS knowledge artifacts intended for clinical providers, and include:

- An (*ECA*) Rule: Women's Health: Osteoporosis Screening Age 45 to Under 65 KNART
  - Rule logic for activation of the documentation template
  - Actions that may include activating documentation templates
- A Documentation Template: Women's Health: Osteoporosis Screening Age 45 to Under 65 KNART
  - Documents a patient's risk for osteoporosis
  - Logic for opening order set
  - Includes logic for appropriate display of documentation sections

- An Order Set: Women's Health: Osteoporosis Screening Age 45 to Under 65 KNART
  - Orderable items associated with osteoporosis screening
  - Includes logic for appropriate display of the order set

[End Knowledge Artifacts.]

---

# Chapter 2. Event Condition Action (ECA) Rule: Osteoporosis Screening

[Begin ECA Rule.]

## Knowledge Narrative

[Begin Knowledge Narrative.]

[See Clinical Context in Chapter 1.]

[Technical Note: All adult female outpatients should be included.]

[End Knowledge Narrative.]

## Outpatient Visit, $\geq 65$ Years of Age, No Prior Dual-Energy X-ray Absorptiometry (DXA)

[Begin Outpatient Visit,  $\geq 65$  Years of Age, No Prior Dual-Energy X-ray Absorptiometry (DXA).]

### Event

[Begin Event.]

- Access of the patient record in a preventive care encounter at a primary care clinic or in an Obstetrics/Gynecology (*OB/GYN*) or women's health outpatient department.

[End Event.]

### Conditions

[Begin Conditions.]

- Patient is aged  $\geq 65$  years; and
- Patient has not been diagnosed with osteoporosis; and
- Patient has not undergone DXA scanning previously; and
- No patient-preferred screening interval has been set.

[End Conditions.]

### Actions

[Begin Actions.]

- Identify the patient as an osteoporosis screening candidate; and
- Open Documentation Template: Osteoporosis Screening; and
- Open Order Set: Osteoporosis Screening; and
- Make screening guideline recommendations available for review.

[End Actions.]

[End Outpatient Visit, >=65 Years of Age, No Prior Dual-Energy X-ray Absorptiometry (DXA).]

## Outpatient Visit, < 65 Years of Age

[Begin Outpatient Visit, < 65 Years of Age.]

### Event

[Begin Event.]

- Access of the patient record in a preventive care encounter at a primary care clinic or in an OB/GYN or women's health outpatient department.

[End Event.]

### Conditions

[Begin Conditions.]

- Patient is aged < 65 years; and
- Patient is postmenopausal; and
- Patient has one or more risk factors associated with osteoporosis (history of fragility fracture; or body weight < 127 lbs; or bone loss caused by medication; or bone loss caused by disease; or parental medical history of hip fracture; or current tobacco smoker; or alcoholism; or rheumatoid arthritis); and
- Patient has not been diagnosed with osteoporosis; and
- No patient-preferred screening interval has been set.

[End Conditions.]

### Actions

[Begin Actions.]

- Identify the patient as an osteoporosis screening candidate; and
- Open Documentation Template: Osteoporosis Screening KNART; and
- Open Order Set: Osteoporosis Screening KNART; and
- Make screening guideline recommendations available for review.

[End Actions.]

[End Outpatient Visit, < 65 Years of Age.]

## >= 15 Years Since Previous Dual-Energy X-ray Absorptiometry (DXA) Scan, >= 65 Years of Age, Most Recent T-Score >= -1.5

[Begin >= 15 Years Since Previous Dual-Energy X-ray Absorptiometry (DXA) Scan, >= 65 Years of Age, Most Recent T-Score >= -1.5.]

## Event

[Begin Event.]

- Previous DXA scan  $\geq 15$  years before today.

[End Event.]

## Conditions

[Begin Conditions.]

- Patient is aged  $\geq 65$  years; and
- Most recent DXA scan result of T-score  $\geq -1.5$ ; and
- Patient has not been diagnosed with osteoporosis; and
- No patient-preferred screening interval has been set.

[End Conditions.]

## Actions

[Begin Actions.]

- Identify the patient as an osteoporosis screening candidate; and
- Open Documentation Template: Osteoporosis Screening KNART; and
- Open Order Set: Osteoporosis Screening KNART; and
- Make screening guideline recommendations available for review

[End Actions.]

[End  $\geq 15$  Years Since Previous Dual-Energy X-ray Absorptiometry (DXA) Scan,  $\geq 65$  Years of Age, Most Recent T-Score  $\geq -1.5$ .]

# 5 Years Since Previous Dual-Energy X-ray Absorptiometry (DXA) Scan, $\geq 65$ Years of Age, Most Recent T-Score is $> -2.0$ and $< -1.5$

[Begin 5 Years Since Previous Dual-Energy X-ray Absorptiometry (DXA) Scan,  $\geq 65$  Years of Age, Most Recent T-Score is  $> -2.0$  and  $< -1.5$ .]

## Event

[Begin Event.]

- Previous DXA scan  $\geq 5$  years before today.

[End Event.]

## Conditions

[Begin Conditions.]

- Patient is aged  $\geq 65$  years; and

- Most recent DXA scan result of T-score is  $> -2.0$  and  $< -1.5$ ; and
- Patient has not been diagnosed with osteoporosis; and
- No patient-preferred screening interval has been set.

[End Conditions.]

## Actions

[Begin Actions.]

- Identify the patient as an osteoporosis screening candidate; and
- Open Documentation Template: Osteoporosis Screening KNART; and
- Open Order Set: Osteoporosis Screening KNART; and
- Make screening guideline recommendations available for review.

[End Actions.]

[End 5 Years Since Previous Dual-Energy X-ray Absorptiometry (DXA) Scan,  $\geq 65$  Years of Age, Most Recent T-Score is  $> -2.0$  and  $< -1.5$ .]

# 1 Year Since Previous Dual-Energy X-ray Absorptiometry (DXA) Scan, $\geq 65$ Years of Age, Most Recent T-Score is $\geq -2.49$ and $\leq -2$

[Begin 1 Year Since Previous Dual-Energy X-ray Absorptiometry (DXA) Scan,  $\geq 65$  Years of Age, Most Recent T-Score is  $\geq -2.49$  and  $\leq -2$ .]

## Event

[Begin Event.]

- Previous DXA scan  $\geq 1$  year before today.

[End Event.]

## Conditions

[Begin Conditions.]

- Patient is aged  $\geq 65$  years; and
- Most recent DXA scan result of T-score is  $\geq -2.49$  and  $\leq -2$ ; and
- Patient has not been diagnosed with osteoporosis; and
- No patient-preferred screening interval has been set.

[End Conditions.]

## Actions

[Begin Actions.]

- Identify the patient as an osteoporosis screening candidate; and
- Open Documentation Template: Osteoporosis Screening KNART; and
- Open Order Set: Osteoporosis Screening KNART; and
- Make screening guideline recommendations available for review.

[End Actions.]

[End 1 Year Since Previous Dual-Energy X-ray Absorptiometry (DXA) Scan,  $\geq 65$  Years of Age, Most Recent T-Score is  $\geq -2.49$  and  $\leq -2$ .]

## Patient-Preferred Screening Interval

[Begin Patient-Preferred Screening Interval.]

### Event

[Begin Event.]

- End of set patient-preferred screening interval.

[End Event.]

### Conditions

[Begin Conditions.]

- Patient has not been diagnosed with osteoporosis; and
- A patient-preferred screening interval has previously been set.

[End Conditions.]

### Actions

[Begin Actions.]

- Identify the patient as an osteoporosis screening candidate; and
- Open Documentation Template: Osteoporosis Screening KNART; and
- Open Order Set: Osteoporosis Screening KNART; and
- Make screening guideline recommendations available for review.

[End Actions.]

[End Patient-Preferred Screening Interval.]

[End ECA Rule.]



---

# Chapter 3. Documentation Template: Osteoporosis Screening

[Begin Documentation Template.]

## Knowledge Narrative

[Begin Knowledge Narrative.]

[See Clinical Context in Chapter 1.]

[Clinical Comment: The Osteoporosis Screening Documentation Template provides a mechanism for documenting a patient's risk for osteoporosis and screening preferences. Although the template is a series of questions and answers, any information that can be obtained from the system should be pre-filled in a manner that is displayed to the user. Users should revise the information provided in the documentation template form as needed during the evaluation.]

[End Knowledge Narrative.]

## Patient Preference for Screening

[Begin Patient Preference for Screening.]

[Section Prompt: Patient preference for screening.]

[Section Selection Behavior: Select only one. Required.]

# Screen as recommended.

# Screen on patient-preferred interval:

<obtain> Interval (years between screening)

# Stop screening.

<obtain> Age (years)

[Section Prompt: Postmenopausal?]

[Section Selection Behavior: Select only one. Required.]

# Yes

# No

[Section Prompt: Previously diagnosed with osteoporosis?]

[Section Selection Behavior: Select only one. Required.]

# Yes

# No

[End Patient Preference for Screening.]

## Age >= 65 Years

[Begin Age >=65 Years.]

[Technical Note: This section should be presented for patients aged  $\geq 65$  years.]

[Section Prompt: Previously undergone DXA scanning?]

[Section Selection Behavior: Select only one. Required.]

# Yes

<obtain> Last DXA scan date

[Section Selection Behavior: Select only one. Optional.]

# Most recent T-score  $\geq -1.5$

# Most recent T-score is  $> -2.0$  and  $< -1.5$

# Most recent T-score is  $\geq -2.49$  and  $\leq -2$

# No

[End Age  $\geq 65$  Years.]

## Age < 65 Years and Postmenopausal

[Begin Age < 65 Years and Postmenopausal.]

[Technical Note: This section should be presented for patients aged < 65 years who are postmenopausal.]

[Section Prompt: History of fragility fracture?]

[Section Selection Behavior: Select only one. Required.]

# Yes

# No

<obtain> Body weight (pounds)

[Section Prompt: Bone loss caused by medication or disease?]

[Section Selection Behavior: Select only one. Required.]

# Yes

[Section Prompt: Medications.]

[Section Selection Behavior: Select one or more. Optional.]

# Glucocorticoid therapy (5 mg per day for longer than 3 months)

# Anticonvulsant therapy greater than 2 years

# Androgen deprivation therapy (ADT)/hypogonadism

# Other

<obtain> Details

[Section Prompt: Disease.]

[Section Selection Behavior: Select one or more. Optional.]

# History of gastrectomy/malabsorption/celiac disease/metabolic surgery

# Other

<obtain> Details

# No

[Section Prompt: Parental history of fragility fracture?]

[Section Selection Behavior: Select one. Required.]

# Yes

# No

[Section Prompt: Do you currently use tobacco?]

[Section Prompt: Tobacco includes cigarettes, pipe, cigars, and smokeless tobacco, such as dip, chew, snuff, and snus. Excludes e-cigarettes, ENDS (electronic nicotine delivery systems), and vaping devices.]

[Section Selection Behavior: Select only one. Required.]

# Every day

# Some days

# Not at all

[Technical Note: Those patients reporting use every day or some days will be considered a Current Tobacco User.]

[Technical Note: Display the following only if “Not at all” is selected in section “Do you currently use tobacco?”]

[Section Prompt: Have you ever used tobacco?]

[Section Selection Behavior: Select only one. Required.]

[Section Selection Behavior: Select only one. Required.]

# Never user

# Former user

[Section Prompt: Alcoholism?]

[Section Selection Behavior: Select one. Required.]

# Yes

# No

[Section Prompt: Rheumatoid arthritis?]

[Section Selection Behavior: Select one. Required.]

# Yes

# No

[End Age < 65 Years and Postmenopausal.]

[End Documentation Template.]

---

# Chapter 4. Order Set: Osteoporosis Screening

[Begin Order Set.]

## Knowledge Narrative

[Begin Knowledge Narrative.]

[See Clinical Context in Chapter 1.]

[This order set applies to any patient who requires osteoporosis screening. All orders are routine unless otherwise specified.]

[End Knowledge Narrative.]

## Laboratory Testing

[Begin Laboratory Testing.]

[Section Prompt: Laboratory Testing.]

[Section Selection Behavior: Select one or more. Optional.]

# Complete blood count

# Complete metabolic panel

# Thyroid stimulating hormone

# 25- hydroxyvitamin D

# 24-hour urinary calcium

[End Laboratory Testing.]

## Imaging Studies

[Begin Imaging Studies.]

[Section Prompt: Imaging Studies.]

[Section Selection Behavior: Select one. Optional.]

# Dual-energy x-ray absorptiometry screen for osteoporosis

[End Imaging Studies.]

## Patient and Caregiver Education

[Begin Patient and Caregiver Educations.]

[Section Prompt: Patient and Caregiver Educations.]

[Section Selection Behavior: Select one. Optional.]

# Osteoporosis education

[End Patient and Caregiver Education.]

## Consults and Referrals

[Begin Consults and Referrals.]

[Section Prompt: Radiology consult for osteoporosis screening.]

[Section Prompt: A radiology consult order would be used to refer a patient to radiology outside the VA.]

[Section Selection Behavior: Optional.]

Consult Specialty: Radiology

Reason for Consult: Osteoporosis Screening

Priority: Routine

[Section Prompt: Referring Physician Information]

<obtain> Referring Physician Name

<obtain> Referring Physician Contact Information

[End Consults and Referrals.]

[End Order Set.]

---

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# Appendix A. Existing Sample VA Artifacts

Figure A.1. Reminder Resolution: Osteoporosis Screen

Reminder Resolution: Osteoporosis Screen

Osteoporosis Screen

- ☒ Order a bone density screening study
- ☐ Historical entry of outside Bone Density Screening results.
- ☐ Life Expectancy is less than 6 Months - screening for osteoporosis is not indicated.
- ☐ Patient declines bone density screening. Patient was educated on the risk of delayed screening.

Clear Clinical Maint Visit Info < Back Next > Finish Cancel

<No encounter information entered>

\* Indicates a Required Field

**Figure A.2. Reminder Resolution: Osteoporosis Education**

Reminder Resolution: Osteoporosis Education

☐ Patient was educated on factors that might reduce risk for osteoporosis.

☐ Patient received osteoporosis education previously at another facility.

☐ Patient declined osteoporosis education at this encounter.

☐ Learning Needs Assessment

Clear Clinical Maint Visit Info < Back Next > Finish Cancel

<No encounter information entered>



---

# Appendix B. Basic Laboratory Panel Definition

- Blood Urea Nitrogen
- Calcium
- Chloride
- CO<sub>2</sub> (Carbon Dioxide, Bicarbonate)
- Creatinine
- Glucose
- Potassium
- Sodium

# Appendix C. Logic Diagrams

Figure C.1. Osteoporosis Screening Event-Condition-Action (ECA) Rule

