Follow Up After Hospitalization for Mental Illness (FUH)

Let’s work together to improve health outcomes. The Healthcare Effectiveness Data and Information Set (HEDIS®) helps us measure many aspects of performance. This tip sheet details key points of the featured HEDIS measure.

What is the measure?
The measure includes the percentage of discharges between January 1 and December 1 of the measurement year for patients age 6 and older who were hospitalized for treatment of selected mental illnesses or intentional self-harm diagnoses and had a follow-up visit with a mental health practitioner.

Two rates are reported:
1. The percentage of discharges with a follow-up visit within 30 days after discharge.
2. The percentage of discharges with follow-up visit within 7 days after discharge.

How to Improve Your Quality Score:

- Ensure the patient has a plan for follow-up visit (i.e., intensive outpatient, partial hospitalization program, community mental health center, electroconvulsive therapy or a telehealth visit) with a mental health practitioner within 7 and 30 days after discharge.
- Do not include visits that occur on the same day of discharge. They do not meet the requirements for this measure.
- Schedule the patient for a follow-up appointment before discharge.
- Contact the patient before the visit and remind them of its importance.
- Educate inpatient and outpatient providers about clinical practice guidelines and the measure.
- Provide timely submission of claims and encounter data.

Exclusions:
- Members in hospice

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