HEDIS Measure: Statin Use in Patients with Cardiovascular Disease (SPC)

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, one of which is a Stars measure (noted with ★).

What is the measure?
The measure looks at the percentage of males age 21-75 and females age 40-75 during the measurement year who were identified as having clinical atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease (denominator) and who were dispensed at least one high or moderate-intensity statin medication during the measurement year (numerator). The measure has two rates reported using pharmacy claims data.

Description

The following rates are reported for this measure:

- Received statin therapy—percent of members who were dispensed at least one high or moderate-intensity statin medication during the measurement year. (Stars measure)
- Statin Adherence 80%—percent of members who remained on a high or moderate-intensity statin medication for at least 80% of the treatment period. *

* CMS Star ratings use the Pharmacy Quality Alliance (PQA) measure for the Medicare population to determine statin adherence. The PQA methodology is based upon Part D claims only.

Eligible Members

Members are identified two ways for this measure:

- **Event**: Myocardial infarction (acute or non-acute inpatient stay)
  - Coronary artery bypass graft, percutaneous coronary intervention or other revascularization (any setting)
- **Diagnosis**: Ischemic Vascular Disease (IVD)
  The member needs to meet at least one of the following criteria during both the measurement year and the prior year:
  - At least one outpatient visit with an IVD diagnosis
  - At least one acute inpatient discharge encounter with an IVD diagnosis on the discharge claim.

(continued next page)
HEDIS Measure: Statin Use in Patients with Cardiovascular Disease

Exclusions

- Hospice care during the measurement year
- Members age 66 and older with frailty and advanced illness
- Pregnancy during the measurement year or the prior year
- In vitro fertilization (IVF) in the measurement year or the prior year
- Dispensed at least one prescription for clomiphene during measurement year or prior year
- End-stage renal disease (ESRD) during the measurement year or the prior year
- Cirrhosis during the measurement year or the prior year
- Myalgia, myositis or rhabdomyolysis during the measurement year, identified through:
  - G72.0 Drug-induced myopathy
  - G72.2 Myopathy due to other toxic agents
  - G72.9 Myopathy, unspecified
  - M62.82 Rhabdomyolysis
  - M79.1 Myalgia
  - M60.80 M60.9 Myositis

Note: In late 2013, the American College of Cardiology and the American Heart Association published the Guideline on the Treatment to Reduce Atherosclerotic Cardiovascular Risk in Adults to address reducing cardiovascular disease. Specific to this HEDIS measure population, the guideline focuses on statin intensity, with evidence supporting use of high-intensity statin to reduce ASCVD event over moderate-intensity statin. Recognizing statin-associated side effects may preclude a member from receiving a high-intensity statin, the guidelines recommend members receive a moderate-intensity statin.

High and Moderate–Intensity Statin Medications*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Prescription</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>High–intensity statin therapy</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>atorvastatin 40-80 mg</td>
<td>simvastatin 80 mg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>rosuvastatin 20-40 mg</td>
<td>amlodipine and atorvastatin 40-80 mg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ezetimibe and simvastatin 80 mg</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moderate-intensity statin therapy</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>atorvastatin 10-20 mg</td>
<td>simvastatin 20-40 mg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>lovastatin 40 mg</td>
<td>rosuvastatin 5-10 mg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pravastatin 40-80 mg</td>
<td>amlodipine and atorvastatin 10-20 mg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ezetimibe and simvastatin 20-40 mg</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pitavastatin 2-4 mg</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Content reproduced with permission from HEDIS® 2020, Volume 2: Technical Specifications for Health Plans by the National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA). HEDIS® measures and specifications are not clinical guidelines and do not establish a standard of medical care. NCQA makes no representations, warranties, or endorsement about the quality of any organization or physician that uses or reports performance measures and NCQA has no liability to any one who relies on such measures or specifications. Limited proprietary coding sets are contained in the specifications for convenience, and users should obtain all necessary licenses from the owners of the code sets. NCQA disclaims all liability for use or accuracy of any coding contained in the specifications. To purchase copies of this publication, including the full measures and specifications, visit ncqa.org/publications.