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ETSU Population Health: QI Weekly

Statin Use in Persons with Diabetes (SUPD): 2021 Exclusion Additions

The goal of the SUPD measure is for diabetic patients ages 40–75 to receive at least one fill of a statin medication in the measurement year. For this measure, diabetic patients are defined as those who have at least two fills of diabetes medications during the measurement year. Per 2021 CMS guidelines, exclusions have been added for this measure.

Exclusions:

- Rhabdomyolysis or myopathy
- Pregnancy, lactation or fertility
- Liver disease
- Pre-diabetes
- Polycystic ovary syndrome (PCOS)
- ESRD
- Hospice

Note: Exclusions must be documented and reassessed annually.

Any intensity of statin therapy will meet the goal of this measure. However, patients must fill the prescription to meet compliance. Since there is no dosage requirement, some of our providers have tried prescribing statins at a very low dose, i.e., only taking a few pills a week, as research has shown that even smaller doses have some cardioprotective benefits. When clinically necessary, this intermittent dosing strategy may help to mitigate statin-related side effects.