



Upper Payment Limit -- New Measure

We are being asked to track patients who are prescribed prescription opioids and benzodiazepines at the same time as part of the Upper Payment Limit.



Concurrent Use of Opioids and Benzodiazepines

Percentage of members ages 18-64 with concurrent use of prescription opioids and benzodiazepines for at least 30 cumulative days.

Exclusions: Cancer DX, Hospice Patients

Individuals using both drugs are at a higher risk of ER visits and hospital admissions for drug-related emergencies

Overdose rate among patients receiving both drugs can be 10 times higher than if just taking opioids.

Combined use of the drugs increases risk of hazardous effects such as respiratory depression