



QI WEEKLY

Medication Adherence



As we approach the end of the year, medication adherence becomes critical, as this is when a lot of patients begin to fail in this measure. Please discuss medication compliance with your patients, and ensure that if they are having problems affording or obtaining their medications, that they are put in touch with your case manager.

Medication Adherence for Cholesterol (Statins)

Percentage of members 18 years and older with a prescription for a cholesterol medication (a statin drug) who have filled their prescription often enough to cover 80% or more of the time they should be taking the medication.

Exclusions: ESRD; patients in hospice

Medication Adherence for Hypertension (RASA)

Percentage of members 18 years and older with a prescription for a blood pressure medication who have filled their prescription often enough to cover 80% or more of the time they should be taking the medication.

This measure is applicable to the following medications in the angiotensin system antagonist class:

- Angiotensin converting enzyme inhibitor (ACEI-1)
- Angiotensin receptor blocker (ARB)
- Direct renin inhibitor

Exclusions: ESRD; prescriptions filled for sacubitril/valsartan (Entresto); patients in hospice

Medication Adherence for Diabetes Medications (OAD)

Percentage of members 18 years and older with a prescription for a diabetes medication who have filled their prescription enough to cover 80% or more of the time they should be taking the medication.

This measure is applicable to the following classes of diabetes medications:

- Biguanides
- Sulfonylureas
- Thiazolidinediones
- Dipeptidyl peptidase-4 (DPP-4) inhibitors
- Incretin mimetics
- Meglitinides
- Sodium glucose cotransporter 2 (SGLT2) inhibitors

Exclusions: **Insulin**; ESRD; patients in hospice



Helpful Tips:

- Prescriptions should be written accurately to reflect the specific medication regimen. If the regimen is not specified, a patient may appear noncompliant with their claims.
- Encourage a 90-day supply or mail order for stable, chronic medication regimens.
- Educate and encourage patients about the purpose and effectiveness of their medications.