

Effectiveness of Care Measure

Statin Therapy for Patients with Cardiovascular Disease



Learn how to improve your HEDIS®¹ rates by using this tip sheet about the Statin Therapy for Patients with Cardiovascular Disease (SPC) measure and best practices.

Measure	<p>Percent of males ages 21–75 and females ages 40–75 who are identified as having atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease (ASCVD) during the measurement year. The measure has two rates that are reported:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Received statin therapy. Members who were dispensed at least one high-intensity or moderate-intensity statin medication during the measurement year. Pharmacy claims are used to record this measure. 2 Statin adherence 80%. Members who stay on a high-intensity or moderate-intensity statin medication for at least 80% of the treatment period.
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Statin medications	Description	Prescription
	High-intensity statin therapy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • atorvastatin 40–80 mg • amlodipine-atorvastatin² 40–80 mg • rosuvastatin 20–40 mg
	Moderate-intensity statin therapy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • amlodipine-atorvastatin² 10–20 mg • atorvastatin 10–20 mg • ezetimibe-simvastatin 20–40 mg • fluvastatin 40–80 mg • lovastatin 40 mg • pitavastatin² 2–4 mg • pravastatin 40–80 mg • rosuvastatin 5–10 mg • simvastatin 20–40 mg

(continued)

¹HEDIS®: Healthcare Effectiveness Data and Information Set

²Non-preferred.

Best practices

- Educate patients on the benefits of statin medication to prevent cardiovascular events.
- Educate and encourage patients to contact you if they think they are experiencing side effects.
- If a patient has had previous intolerance to statins, consider a statin rechallenge using a different moderate- to high-intensity statin. Hydrophilic statins, such as pravastatin, fluvastatin and rosuvastatin, may have lower risk of myalgia side effects.
- Document in the medical record patient conditions that exclude them from taking a statin and submit a claim with appropriate exclusion diagnosis code.
- Encourage patients to obtain 90-day supplies at their pharmacy once they demonstrate they tolerate statin therapy.
- **Note:** Sample medications given to patients will not count for the measure.

Exclusions

- Patients who meet the following criteria anytime during the measurement year:
 - Patients ages 66 and older enrolled in an Institutional Special Needs Plan (I-SNP) or living long term in an institution.
 - Patients ages 66–80 with frailty and advanced illness.
 - Patients ages 81 and older with frailty.
 - Patients in hospice or palliative care.
 - Patients with pregnancy diagnosis.
 - Patients with myalgia, myositis, myopathy or rhabdomyolysis.
- Patients who meet the following criteria anytime during the measurement year or year prior to the measurement year:
 - Patients with in vitro fertilization or dispensed at least one prescription for clomiphene.
 - Patients with end-stage renal disease (ESRD) or dialysis.
 - Patients with cirrhosis.
 - Patients dispensed dementia medication (see table below).

Dementia medications

Description	Prescription
Cholinesterase inhibitors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • donepezil • galantamine • rivastigmine
Miscellaneous central nervous system agents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • memantine
Dementia combinations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • memantine-donepezil