

Effectiveness of Care Measure

# Statin Therapy for Patients with Cardiovascular Disease



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



**Measure**

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:

- 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.

**Statin medications**

Description	Prescription
<b>High-intensity statin therapy</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• atorvastatin 40–80 mg</li> <li>• amlodipine-atorvastatin<sup>1</sup> 40–80 mg</li> <li>• rosuvastatin 20–40 mg</li> </ul>
<b>Moderate-intensity statin therapy</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• amlodipine-atorvastatin<sup>1</sup> 10–20 mg</li> <li>• atorvastatin 10–20 mg</li> <li>• ezetimibe-simvastatin 20–40 mg</li> <li>• fluvastatin 40–80 mg</li> <li>• lovastatin 40 mg</li> <li>• pitavastatin<sup>1</sup> 2–4 mg</li> <li>• pravastatin 40–80 mg</li> <li>• rosuvastatin 5–10 mg</li> <li>• simvastatin 20–40 mg</li> </ul>

(continued)

<sup>1</sup>Non-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 re-challenge 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.
  - 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
<b>Cholinesterase inhibitors</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• donepezil</li> <li>• galantamine</li> <li>• rivastigmine</li> </ul>
<b>Miscellaneous central nervous system agents</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• memantine</li> </ul>