



Pharmacotherapy for Opioid Use Disorder (POD)

HEDIS measure overview

Please note that the information offered in this flyer is based on Healthcare Effectiveness Data and Information Set (HEDIS®) technical specifications. It is not meant to replace your clinical judgment.

What is the POD measure?

Pharmacotherapy for Opioid Use Disorder (POD) is one of the National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA) HEDIS measures that assesses pharmacotherapy treatment adherence for those with opioid use disorder (OUD). Costs of substance misuse in the U.S. exceed \$400 billion annually. Between 1999 and 2016, opioid overdose deaths increased fivefold. Literature suggests continuity of pharmacotherapy is imperative to prevent relapse and overdose.¹

Who is included in the POD measure?

Patients 16 years old and older with a diagnosis of OUD and a new OUD pharmacotherapy event

How does a patient become compliant?

Patients are compliant with the POD measure when they have new OUD pharmacotherapy events with OUD pharmacotherapy for at least 180 days without a gap in treatment of eight or more consecutive days.

Exclusions

Patients in hospice care or using hospice services; Patients who have an acute or nonacute inpatient stay of eight or more days

Measure best practices

- Use correct coding and submit claims and encounter data in a timely manner.
- Ensure that patients have access to treatment.
- Educate patients on the importance of medication adherence for successful treatment, the risks and benefits of treatment, and treatment options without medication.
- Monitor medication prescriptions, and do not allow gaps in treatment for eight or more consecutive days.
- Refer patients to treatment programs.
- Include family members in decision-making.
- Provide resources to address stigma and fears that patients may have regarding treatment.
- Partner with patients in a way that fosters trust and understanding.
- Reach out to patients to reschedule missed or canceled appointments.

¹ National Committee for Quality Assurance, 2021. *HEDIS Measurement Year 2022 Volume 1*.

POD coding

Code type	Description	Code
HCPCS	Buprenorphine	G2068, G2069, G2070, G2072, G2073, G2079, H0033, J0570–J0575, Q9991, Q9992
HCPCS	Methadone	G2067, G2078, H0020, S0109
HCPCS	Naltrexone	G2073, J2315
ICD-10	Opioid abuse and dependence	F11.10–F11.29

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