

HEDIS[®] Tips:

Use of Opioids at High Dosage (HDO)

MEASURE DESCRIPTION

The proportion of patients 18 years of age or older who received prescription opioids at a high dosage (average morphine milligrams equivalent dose [MME] ≥ 90) for ≥ 15 days during the measurement year.

Note: A lower rate indicates better performance

MEDICATIONS

Description	Prescription
Opioid Medications	Benzhydrocodone, Butorphanol, Codeine, Dihydrocodeine, Fentanyl, Hydrocodone, Hydromorphone, Levorphanol, Meperidine, Methadone, Morphine, Opium, Oxycodone, Oxymorphone, Pentazocine, Tapentadol, Tramadol
Opioid Medications excluded from the Measures	Injectables, Opioid cough and cold products, lonsys (fentanyl transdermal patch), Methadone for the treatment of opioid use disorder

HOW TO IMPROVE HEDIS[®] SCORES

- Review the Prescription Monitoring Program Registry for your state.
- Prescribe the lowest effective dose for the shortest amount of time.
- Consider tapering to reduce the dose or making a plan to safely discontinue opioid therapy when dosage is exceeding 120 morphine milligram equivalents daily without functional benefit.
- If a patient shows signs of opioid use disorder refer them to an appropriate substance use provider and assist with care coordination.
- Maximize the utilization of non-narcotic and non-pharmacologic measures to control pain as part of a comprehensive pain management plan.
- Provide patient educational materials and resources that include information on the treatment processes and options, including mutual support groups and other community-based programs.
- Refer to Molina Healthcare Case Management for targeted SUD case management and support.

“Clinical practice guidelines encourage use of the PDMP (Prescription Drug Monitoring Programs) prior to prescribing to assess a patient’s history of controlled substance use.”

Reference: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (2021, February 12). *Prescription Drug Monitoring Programs (pdmps)*. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Retrieved from <https://www.cdc.gov/opioids/providers/pdmps.html>

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