

Medication Adherence

wellcare

At Wellcare, we strive to optimize medication adherence among our members, your patients. We appreciate your commitment to their positive healthcare experience and everything you do to deliver quality care.



Quality Measures

Below are three examples of Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services star measures, which use adherence to evaluate health plans.

Beneficiaries ages 18 years and older who had at least two fills of medication(s) listed below on different dates of service and were 80 percent or more adherent to their medications.

Quality Measure	Description
Medication Adherence for Diabetes (DIAB)	Oral antidiabetic medications defined as biguanides, sulfonylureas, thiazolidinediones, DPP-IV inhibitors, GLP-1 receptor agonists, meglitinides, and SGLT2 inhibitors
Medication Adherence for Hypertension (RASA)	Renin-angiotensin system (RAS) antagonists defined as ACE inhibitors, ARBs, or direct renin inhibitors
Medication Adherence for Cholesterol (Statins)	Statins

Exclusions

End-stage renal disease (ESRD), hospice, inpatient/skilled nursing facility (SNF), insulin use, and sacubitril/valsartan use.

Medication Adherence

Use this tip sheet for best practices on how to talk to your patients about why they need to maintain adherence and how to track their medications.

(continued on next page)

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Patient barriers

Talking points

Medications cost too much

Check for medications in a lower tier on formulary

Can't remember to refill their medications

Talk to your patients about how they can enroll in a refill reminder program with their pharmacy. If a patient has a smart device, have them add calendar reminders or alerts for medication refills.

Hard to get to the pharmacy

Have the patient check if their pharmacy offers delivery service. Ask the patient to check with family members or a caregiver for help.

Too many medications to track

Ask the patient's pharmacy to synchronize medications so they are all filled on the same day. Encourage the use of a pillbox or smart device alarms to help patients take their medications each day at the correct time.

Best practices to promote medication adherence



Prescribe 90-day prescriptions

For chronic medications, prescribe a 90-day quantity.



Review medications regularly

During each visit, review all medications with the patient.

When possible, remove medications that are no longer needed and/or reduce dosages.



Check for understanding

Make sure your patient knows why you are prescribing a medication.

Clearly explain what the medications are, what they do, and how to manage potential side effects.

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