

Measure specifications: Antidepressant Medication Management

Metric information

Metric description: The percentage of Medicaid beneficiaries 18 years of age and older who were treated with antidepressant medication, had a diagnosis of major depression, and who remained on an antidepressant medication treatment. Two submetrics are reported:

- (1) Effective Acute Phase Treatment: The percentage of Medicaid beneficiaries who remained on an antidepressant medication for at least 84 days (12 weeks).
- (2) Effective Continuation Phase Treatment: The percentage of Medicaid beneficiaries who remained on an antidepressant medication for at least 180 days (6 months).

Metric specification version: HEDIS® Measurement Year 2023 Technical Specifications for Health Plans, NCQA.

Data collection method: Administrative only.

Data source: ProviderOne Medicaid claims/encounter and enrollment data.

Claim status: Include only final paid claims or accepted encounters in metric calculation.

Identification window: Starting on May 1 of the year prior to the measurement year and ending on April 30 of the measurement year to establish the Index Prescription Start Date (IPSD) through the last day of the measurement year to identify acute and continuation of treatment.

Direction of quality improvement: Higher is better.

URL of specifications: [NCQA HEDIS measures](#)

Metric Details

Eligible Population

Performance year	Percentile
Age	18 years and older. Age is as of April 30 of the measurement year.
Gender	N/A
Minimum Medicaid enrollment	105 days prior to the Index Prescription Start Date (IPSD) through 231 days after the IPSD. Enrollment must be continuous.
Allowable gap in Medicaid enrollment	One gap of one month from 105 days prior to the Index Prescription Start Date (IPSD) through 231 days after the IPSD.
Medicaid enrollment anchor date	Index Prescription Start Date (IPSD)

Medicaid benefit and eligibility

Includes Medicaid beneficiaries with comprehensive medical benefits. Excludes beneficiaries that are eligible for both Medicare and Medicaid and beneficiaries with primary insurance other than Medicaid.

Denominator (used for both rates):

Data elements required for denominator: Both rates use the same denominator. The following steps are needed to identify the eligible Medicaid beneficiaries for the denominator:

- 1) Determine the date of the earliest dispensing event for an antidepressant medication during the Intake Period.
- 2) Exclude Medicaid beneficiaries who did not have an encounter with a diagnosis of major depression during the 121-day period from 60 days prior to the IPSP, through the IPSP and the 60 days after the IPSP. See HEDIS® for specific instructions.
- 3) Test for Negative Medication History. Exclude Medicaid beneficiaries who filled a prescription for an antidepressant medication 105 days prior to the IPSP.

Required exclusions for denominator.

- Eligible population exclusions are listed in the eligible population table above.
- Metric specific exclusions:
 - o Beneficiaries in hospice care.
 - o Medicaid beneficiaries who did not have an encounter with a diagnosis of major depression during the 121-day period from 60 days prior to the IPSP, through the IPSP and the 60 days after the IPSP.

Deviations from cited specifications for denominator.

- HEDIS® specifications require no more than one gap in continuous enrollment of up to 45 days during each year of continuous enrollment. To determine continuous enrollment for a Medicaid beneficiary for whom enrollment is verified monthly, as is the case for the ProviderOne data source, the Medicaid beneficiary may not have more than a 1-month gap in coverage (i.e., a Medicaid beneficiary whose coverage lapses for 2 months [60 days] is not considered continuously enrolled).

Numerator (different for the two rates reported):

For both rates, beneficiaries must qualify for inclusion in the denominator to be eligible for inclusion in the numerator.

Data elements required for effective acute phase treatment numerator: At least 84 days (12 weeks) of treatment with antidepressant medication (Antidepressant Medications List), beginning on the IPSP through 114 days after the IPSP (115 total days). This allows gaps in medication treatment up to a total of 31 days during the 115-day period (to accommodate medication refills and/or changes in medication).

Data elements required for effective continuation phase treatment numerator: At least 180 days (6 months) of treatment with antidepressant medication (Antidepressant Medications List), beginning on the IPSP through 231 days after the IPSP (232 total days). This allows gaps in medication treatment up to a total of 52 days during the 232-day period (to accommodate medication refills and/or changes in medication).

Required exclusions for numerator.

- None

Deviations from cited specifications for numerator.

- None

Version control

August 2020 update: Per HEDIS® General Guideline 43, unless specifically excluded, HEDIS® metrics include telehealth by default and do not require the use of a specific value set to identify relevant CPT and HCPCS place of service modifiers. Denominator value sets have changed, and the underlying values may have been updated. See HEDIS® for specific instructions.

August 2023 update: HEDIS® clarified that hospice is a required exclusion. No substantive changes were made to the DSRIP Metric Details.

November 2024 update: MTP 1.0 DSRIP related criteria have been removed from metric production calculations. The metric aligns with HEDIS specifications.