



INITIATION AND ENGAGEMENT OF ALCOHOL AND OTHER DRUG ABUSE OR DEPENDENCE TREATMENT (IET)

MEETING THE HEDIS MEASURE

The IET measure assesses the percentage of adolescents 13 years of age and older with a new episode of alcohol or other drug (AOD) dependence who received the following:

Two rates are reported.

- **Initiation** of AOD Treatment: Adolescents and adults who initiated treatment through an inpatient AOD admission, outpatient visit, intensive outpatient encounter or partial hospitalization, telehealth or medication-assisted treatment (MAT) within 14 days of diagnosis.
- **Engagement** of AOD Treatment: Adolescents and adults who initiated treatment and had two or more additional AOD services or MAT within 34 days of the initiation visit.

WHY IS THE MEASURE IMPORTANT?

In 2022, 48.7 million individuals in the U.S. 12 years of age or older (approximately 17.3% of the population) were classified as having had an SUD within the past year. Individuals with SUD are at increased risk of overdose, injury, soft tissue infections and mortality. In 2021, drug overdose accounted for 106,699 deaths, representing a 14% increase in overdose deaths compared to 2020.3 Similarly, over 140,000 people die each year from excessive alcohol use. Less than 20% of individuals with substance use disorders receive treatment despite strong evidence of the effectiveness of treatment.

Early and regular SUD treatment, including medication therapy, has been demonstrated to improve outcomes for individuals with SUDs.,5–8 but less than 20% of individuals with a SUD receive this important specialty care.

TYPES OF VISITS INCLUDED IN THE MEASURE

Inpatient Stay	Outpatient Visits	Non-residential opioid treatment Facility
Behavioral Health Outpatient Visit		Community Mental Health Center Visit
Intensive Outpatient Encounter or Partial Hospitalization		Telehealth
Psychiatric facility		Observation Visit
Non-Residential Substance Abuse Treatment Facility		E-Visit or Virtual Check-In
		Telephone Visit
		Online Assessment

WHAT CAN BE DONE TO HELP MEET THE MEASURE?

Use Screening tools to aid in forming a diagnosis.

Schedule a follow up appointment prior to the member leaving the office with you or a substance use treatment provider to occur within 14 days and then 2 more visits within the next 34 days.

*If a member has started Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) then they only need one MAT follow-up visit in 34 days.

When a member is in remission, please remember to remove the original diagnosis and use remission codes:

- Mild (abuse) F10.11 –
- Moderate/severe (dependence) F10.21

Encourage the use of telehealth appointments when appropriate.

Encourage newly diagnosed individuals to include their family in their treatment.

Encourage newly diagnosed individuals to accept treatment by assisting them in identifying their own reasons for change.

REQUIREMENTS

An encounter during the intake period with a diagnosis of SUD.

SERVICE DATE RANGE

November 15 of the year prior to the measurement year–November 14 of the measurement year. The intake period is used to capture new SUD episodes.

REQUIRED EXCLUSIONS

- Members in hospice or using hospice services during the measurement year
- Members who have died during the measurement year

Important Notes	
Test, Service or Procedure to Close Care Opportunity	
 <p>Episode date is the earliest date of service not resulting in an inpatient stay with a substance use disorder diagnosis between November 15 of the year prior to the measurement year through November 14 of the measurement year.</p>	
<p>Initiation of SUD Treatment must take place within 14 days of the episode date. Claims must include the visit code, original episode diagnosis and, when applicable, a place of service code. If the episode was an inpatient discharge or an ED (Emergency Department) visit resulting in an inpatient stay, the inpatient stay is considered initiation of treatment and the member is compliant.</p>	<p>Initiation of SUD Treatment through: Acute or non-acute inpatient stay Group visits with an appropriate place of service code and diagnosis code Medication dispensing event Medication treatment Online assessment with diagnosis code Stand-alone visits with an appropriate place of service code and diagnosis code Telephone visit with diagnosis code</p>
<p>Engagement of SUD treatment is compliant with the initiation treatment AND one of the following between the day after and 34 days after the initiation visit: At least 2 inpatient, outpatient, or medication treatment visits (excluding methadone billed on a pharmacy claim) - A long-acting SUD medication administration event (MAT) Claims must include the visit code, original episode diagnosis and, when applicable, a place of service code. For members who initiated treatment through an inpatient admission, the 34-day period for the two engagement visits begins the day after their discharge.</p>	<p>Engagement of SUD Treatment when a member meets the criteria for initiation of treatment and proceeds with two or more of the following: Acute or non-acute inpatient stay Group visits with an appropriate place of service code and diagnosis code Medication dispensing event Medication treatment Online assessment with diagnosis code Stand-alone visits with an appropriate place of service code and diagnosis code Telephone visit with diagnosis code</p>



Medications

Alcohol Use Disorder Treatment Medications

Description	Prescription
Aldehyde dehydrogenase inhibitor	Disulfiram (oral)
Antagonist	Naltrexone (oral and injectable)
Other	Acamprosate (oral; delayed-release tablet)

Opioid Use Disorder Treatment Medications

Description	Prescription
Antagonist	Naltrexone (oral) Naltrexone Oral Medications List
Antagonist	Naltrexone (injectable) Naltrexone Injection Medications List
Partial Agonist	Buprenorphine (sublingual tablet) Buprenorphine Oral Medications List
Partial Agonist	Buprenorphine (injectable) Buprenorphine Injection Medications List
Partial Agonist	Buprenorphine (implant) Buprenorphine Implant Medications List
Partial Agonist	Buprenorphine/naloxone (sublingual tablet, buccal film, sublingual film) Buprenorphine/Naloxone Medications List

*Methadone is not included on the medication lists for this measure. Methadone for opioid use disorder (OUD) administered or dispensed by federally certified opioid treatment programs (OTP) is billed on a medical claim. A pharmacy claim for methadone would be indicative of treatment for pain rather than OUD.

The following scenarios must include a diagnosis of one of the below on the claim:

- Alcohol use disorder
- Opioid use disorder
- Other drug abuse and dependence

CPT® / CPT® II Electronic Clinical Data System (ECDS)	
Behavioral Health Outpatient Visit	98960, 98961, 98962, 99078, 99202, 99203, 99204, 99205, 99211, 99212, 99213, 99214, 99215, 99242, 99243, 99244, 99245, 99341, 99342, 99344, 99345, 99347, 99348, 99349, 99350, 99381, 99382, 99383, 99384, 99385, 99386, 99387, 99391, 99392, 99393, 99394, 99395, 99396, 99397, 99401, 99402, 99403, 99404, 99411, 99412, 99483, 99492, 99493, 99494, 99510 HCPCS: G0155, G0176, G0177, G0409, G0463, G0512, H0002, H0004, H0031, H0034, H0036, H0037, H0039, H0040, H2000, H2010, H2011, H2013, H2014, H2015, H2016, H2017, H2018, H2019, H2020, T1015 POS: 03, 05, 07, 09, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 22, 33, 49, 50, 71, 72
ED	99281, 99282, 99283, 99284, 99285
Online Assessments	98970, 98971, 98972, 98980, 98981, 99421, 99422, 99423, 99457, 99458 HCPCS: G0071, G2010, G2012, G2250, G2251, G2252
Partial Hospitalization or Intensive Outpatient	HCPCS: G0410, G0411, H0035, H2001, H2012, S0201, S9480, S9484, S9485
Non-Residential Substance Abuse Treatment Facility	90791-92, 90832-34, 90836-40, 90845, 90847, 90849, 90853, 90875-76, 99221-23, 99231-33, 99238-39, 99251-55 Place of Service Code: 57, 58
Substance Use Disorder Services	99408, 99409 HCPCS: G0396, G0397, G0443, H0001, H0005, H0007, H0015, H0016, H0022, H0047, H0050, H2035, H2036, T1006, T1012
Telephone Visits	98966, 98967, 98968, 99441, 99442, 99443 POS: 02, 10
Visit Setting Unspecified	90791, 90792, 90832, 90833, 90834, 90836, 90837, 90838, 90839, 90840, 90845, 90847, 90849, 90853, 90875, 90876, 99221, 99222, 99223, 99231, 99232, 99233, 99238, 99239, 99252, 99253, 99254, 99255
ICD-10 Codes	
Substance Abuse Counseling and Surveillance	ICD10CM: Z71.41, Z71.51

*Codes are not all inclusive

**Claims data only, cannot accept data through any other supplemental sources such as data feeds and medical record collection methods.

REFERENCES

Initiation and engagement of substance use disorder treatment. NCQA. (2024b, February 16). <https://www.ncqa.org/hedis/measures/initiation-and-engagement-of-substance-use-disorder-treatment/>

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