

Follow-Up Care for Children Prescribed ADHD Medication (ADD)

Measure description

The percentage of children newly prescribed attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) medication who had at least three follow-up care visits within 10 months, one of which was within 30 days of when the first ADHD medication was dispensed. Two rates are reported:

Initiation Phase – The percentage of members 6–12 years of age who had one follow-up visit with a practitioner with prescribing authority within 30 days of receiving their medication.

Continuation and Maintenance Phase – The percentage of members 6–12 years of age of who remained on the medication for at least 210 days and had at least two follow-up visits with a practitioner within 270 days (nine months) after the Initiation Phase ended.

NOTE: The phase begins when the prescription is filled.

Criteria for meeting the measure

- Initiation Phase: When the member attends an outpatient appointment with a prescribing physician within 30 days from the date the first prescription was filled.
- Continuation and Maintenance Phase: When the member has remained on their medication for at least 210 days AND attended two or more follow-up visits with any outpatient provider within 270 days after the Initiation Phase ended.

NOTE: At least one of the two visits must be in person.

Best practices and tips for providers to improve member outcomes

- Educate members, parents, and guardians on medication adherence and the importance of taking medications as prescribed.
- Monitor dosage of medication and adjust as necessary.
- Send appointment reminders to the parents and/ or guardians of members to ensure they attend necessary appointments.
- Discuss concurrent treatment options that complement medication management such as behavioral therapy, psychotherapy, support groups, counseling groups, and/ or parenting groups.
- Implement strategies to coordinate with other providers involved in the member's care.
- Communicate with primary care physicians and other providers involved with the member's treatment to ensure continuity and coordination of care to support a whole person approach.
- Ensure appropriate documentation, accurate coding and submit claims in a timely manner.

ADD is a Healthcare Effectiveness Data and Information Set (HEDIS®) measure. See the National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA) website for more details.

<https://www.ncqa.org/hedis/measures/follow-up-care-for-children-prescribed-adhd-medication/>
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