



SUPPORTING OUR PROVIDER PARTNERS THROUGH COMMUNICATION AND COLLABORATION

Behavioral Health HEDIS® Measures

Date: August 14, 2017

To: Passport Behavioral Health Practitioners, PCPs, and Comprehensive Care Centers

Background

The 2017 Behavioral Health HEDIS® include measures that address children, adolescents, and adults who are prescribed antipsychotic medications. (Please see [HEDIS 101 for Provider Education 2017.](#))

For **members age 1 to 17**, HEDIS measures focus on metabolic monitoring, outpatient services concurrent with antipsychotic medication, and children and adolescents receiving only one antipsychotic medication at a time. The measures are intended to ensure this category of medications are used and monitored appropriately. The following are the specific HEDIS measures:

- **Use of First Line Psychosocial Care for Children and Adolescents on Antipsychotics (APP)** - assessing if children/adolescents received outpatient treatment prior to the initiation of antipsychotic medication. For 2016, more than 52% of our members received outpatient treatment before antipsychotic medications were prescribed.
- **Metabolic Monitoring for Children and Adolescents on Antipsychotic Medication (APM)** - assessing if children/adolescents had an LDL and A1C completed while on antipsychotic medication. For 2016, approximately 40% of our children and adolescent members at an increased risk for metabolic disorders due to being prescribed an antipsychotic medication received metabolic monitoring tests to check LDLs and hemoglobin A1Cs.
- **Use of Multiple Concurrent Antipsychotics in Children and Adolescents (APC)** – assessment of how many children/adolescents are on two or more concurrent antipsychotic medications. In 2016, the total members affected by this measure was 1,056 and our final rate was 1.80. For 2016, nearly 2% of our child and adolescent members were prescribed 2 or more antipsychotic medications.

For **members age 18 to 64**, HEDIS measures focus on a minimum of annual screenings for diabetes and cardiovascular issues.

- Diabetes Screening for People with Schizophrenia or Bipolar Disorder who are using Antipsychotic Medications (SSD). For 2016, nearly 85% of our adult members with schizophrenia or bipolar disorder were screened for diabetes.
- Diabetes Monitoring for People with Diabetes and Schizophrenia (SMD). For 2016, nearly 65% of our adult members with schizophrenia and diabetes had monitoring tests completed.
- Cardiovascular Monitoring for People with Cardiovascular Disease and Schizophrenia (SMC). For 2016, only 6 of our adult members with schizophrenia and cardiovascular disease had monitoring completed.

Provider Action Needed

When prescribing an antipsychotic medication for a Passport **member age 1 to 17**, please consider the following:

1. It is recommended that children and adolescents receive outpatient mental health counseling prior to beginning treatment with an antipsychotic medication and concurrently with an antipsychotic medication. If the child or adolescent is not receiving outpatient mental health counseling discuss these services with the family.
2. Prior to initiating an antipsychotic medication, review the member's personal and family histories for diabetes, hyperlipidemia, and cardiovascular disorders.
3. Prior to initiating an antipsychotic medication, get a weight (BMI), waist circumference, blood pressure, fasting plasma glucose, and fasting lipid profile to establish a base line for comparison.
4. Update the family/member history with the weight (BMI), waist circumference, blood pressure, fasting plasma glucose, and fasting lipid profile at least annually to quarterly.
5. Use of multiple antipsychotics concurrently with this age group is discouraged.

Currently, there is little research on the effects of long-term use of antipsychotic medication on children and adolescents. However, significant research in adults shows that these medications can cause weight gain, increase in blood sugars, seizures, and obesity. These side effects can lead to an increased risk of cardiovascular issues and/or diabetes with adults. Therefore, careful monitoring of these medications on children and adolescents is recommended.

For adult **members age 18-64**, please ensure the following:

1. Screen members with schizophrenia or bipolar disorder at least annually with a fasting glucose or hemoglobin A, C.
2. Monitor diabetes at least annually with a fasting blood glucose or hemoglobin A, C for members with schizophrenia and diabetes.
3. Monitor members with schizophrenia and cardiovascular disease annually with an LDL.

4. Obtain, or refer, either a fasting blood glucose or HbA, C and an LDL (calculated or direct) for members who are on an antipsychotic medication for screening during 2017.

Questions

If you have any questions about these HEDIS® measures please contact Passport's Behavioral Health Provider Services, 1-855-834-5651 or your provider relations specialist.