

WHAT IS HEDIS® (HEALTHCARE EFFECTIVENESS DATA INFORMATION SET)?

HEDIS is a widely used set of performance measures in the managed care industry, developed and maintained by NCQA. HEDIS measures results and drives improvement efforts surrounding best practices.

MEASURE FOR INITIATION AND ENGAGEMENT OF ALCOHOL AND OTHER DRUG DEPENDENCE TREATMENT (IET)

The HEDIS IET measure is the percentage of adolescent and adult members with a new episode of alcohol or other drug (AOD) use disorder or dependence who received:

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

JUSTIFICATION FOR THE IET MEASURE

- In 2013, an estimated 22.7 million Americans needed treatment for a problem related to drugs or alcohol, but only about 2.5 million people received treatment at a specialty facility.¹
- The misuse of prescription drugs is the nation's third-most common drug problem, after alcohol/tobacco and marijuana, leading to troubling increases in opioid overdoses in the past decade.²
- Over the past 10 years, the prevalence of heroin and prescription opioid misuse has significantly increased, in large part because of the increased prescribing of opioid analgesics in the U.S.³

WHAT CAN PROVIDERS DO TO IMPROVE OUTCOMES?

Early identification of substance use disorder issues can help your patients avoid future drug-related illnesses, deaths, and improve their quality of life. Here are some recommendations:

- **Screen:** Incorporate substance use screening upon intake and at treatment plan review using standardized screening tools such as **CAGE-AID** or **AUDIT (Alcohol Use Disorder Identification Test)**.
- **Document:** If a substance use disorder is identified, be sure to continue to document and supply the diagnosis code on any subsequent claims submitted.
- **Follow up:** When a substance use disorder is identified, schedule appropriate follow-up treatment. For newly diagnosed patients, in particular, it is recommended that you **schedule three follow-up appointments within the first 34 days of treatment, with one of the three being scheduled within the first 14 days.**
- **Educate:** It is important to educate patients on the effects of substance use disorder and on the treatment options that exist for them in their community.

HEDIS is a registered trademark of the National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA).

¹ National Institute on Drug Abuse. 2013. "Nationwide Trends." <http://www.drugabuse.gov/publications/drugfacts/nationwide-trends> (June, 2015) Accessed September 19, 2018

² Center for Behavioral Health Statistics and Quality. (2015). Behavioral health trends in the United States: Results from the 2014 National Survey on Drug Use and Health (HHS Publication No. SMA 15-4927, NSDUH Series H-50). Retrieved from <http://www.samhsa.gov/data/> May 12, 2016

³ Compton, WM, Jones CM, Baldwin GT. Relationship between nonmedical prescription-opioid use and heroin use. N Engl J Med 2016;374:154-63. DOI: 10.1056/NEJMra1508490. Accessed 11/11/16.

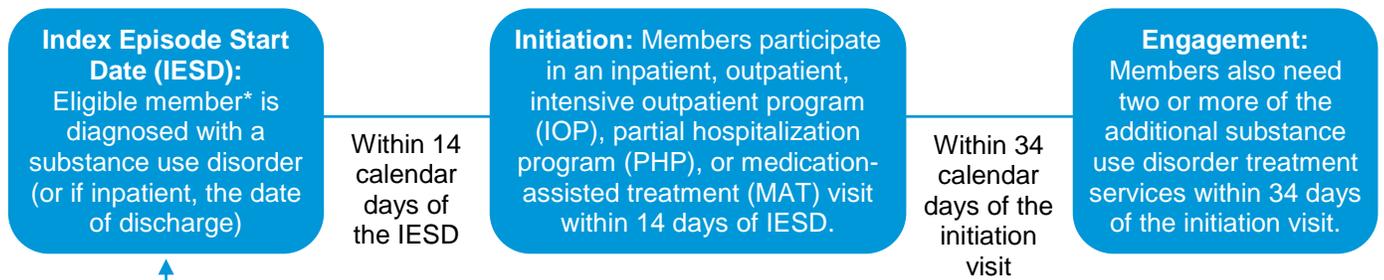
NEW! TELEHEALTH

Telehealth is real-time interaction via audio and video telecommunication. The telehealth service must be of an amount and nature that is sufficient to meet the key components/requirements of the same service when rendered via face-to face interaction.

BEACON CAN HELP!

Beacon's website (www.beaconhealthoptions.com) offers a number of additional resources for members seeking AOD treatment and providers, including access to the CAGE-Aid and AUDIT screening tool.

IET General Timeline



***Eligible members for the IET HEDIS measure:**

- The member will be at least 13 years old by the end of the calendar year.
- This is the first claim (medical or behavioral health) noting a substance use disorder diagnosis in the past 60 days.
- This is the first time the member is receiving treatment within the intake period (Jan. 1–Nov. 14).