

Medication Adherence for Hypertension (RAS Antagonists)



Measure Description

The percentage of patients with a prescription for a blood pressure medication who fill their prescription often enough to cover at least 80% of the time prescribed.

Calculation

[Numerator] = Measure Compliance

The number of patients 18 years and older who have a proportion of days covered (PDC) of 80% or greater for their RAS antagonist medication during the measurement period.

[Denominator] = Measure Population

The number of patients 18 years and older with at least two fills of their RAS antagonist medication on unique dates of service during the measurement period.

Exclusions

- Beneficiaries who meet the following criteria during the measurement period:
 - In hospice
 - ESRD diagnosis or dialysis coverage dates
 - One or more prescriptions for sacubitril/valsartan

Strategies for Rate Improvement

- Identify and address any barriers to non-adherence at every visit.
- Provide clear instructions and emphasize the benefits of adherence as well as the risks of non-adherence.
- Advise patients to contact their provider if experiencing any adverse effects.
- Once patients are on a stable regimen, prescribe 100-day supplies through their preferred pharmacy or mail-order pharmacy.
- Offer accessible solutions to adherence such as the use of pill boxes, bubble packs, text reminders, and auto-refills.

Encourage patients to fill prescriptions using their L.A. Care pharmacy benefit. Gap closure is dependent on pharmacy claims.

What is PDC?

- The percent of days a patient has medication on hand based on their prescription refill history.

Blood Pressure Medications

- ACEI (Angiotensin Converting Enzyme Inhibitor)
- ARB (Angiotensin Receptor Blocker)
- DRI (Direct Renin Inhibitor)

1. Medicare 2025 Part c & D Star Ratings Technical Notes. <https://www.cms.gov/files/document/2025-star-ratings-technical-notes.pdf>

2. Outcomes. Raising Adherence, Digitally: Survey Highlights Opportunities for Pharmacies and Payers to Boost Medication Compliance. [Pqaalliance.org](https://www.pqaalliance.org/index.php?category=quest+blog&id=317%3Araising-adherence-digitally-survey-highlights-opportunities-for-pharmacies-and-payers-to-boost-medication-compliance&option=com_dailyplanetblog&view=entry). Published 2024. Accessed December 30, 2024. https://www.pqaalliance.org/index.php?category=quest+blog&id=317%3Araising-adherence-digitally-survey-highlights-opportunities-for-pharmacies-and-payers-to-boost-medication-compliance&option=com_dailyplanetblog&view=entry



**ELEVATING
HEALTHCARE**
IN LOS ANGELES COUNTY
SINCE 1997