**Effectiveness of Care Measure** 

# Statin Therapy for Patients with Cardiovascular Disease



Learn how to improve your Healthcare Effectiveness Data and Information Set (HEDIS®) rates by using this tip sheet about the Statin Therapy for Patients with Cardiovascular Disease (SPC) measure and best practices.

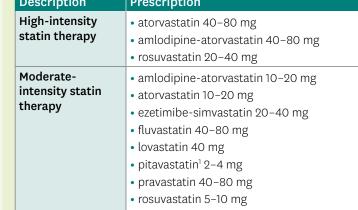
#### Measure

Percent of males ages 21-75 and females ages 40-75 who are identified as having atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease (ASCVD) during the measurement year. The measure has two rates that are reported:

- Received statin therapy. Members who were dispensed at least one high-intensity or moderateintensity statin medication during the measurement year. Pharmacy claims are used to record this measure.
- Statin adherence 80%. Members who stay on a high-intensity or moderate-intensity statin medication for at least 80% of the treatment period.

# Statin medications

Description	Prescription
High-intensity statin therapy	<ul><li>atorvastatin 40–80 mg</li><li>amlodipine-atorvastatin 40–80 mg</li><li>rosuvastatin 20–40 mg</li></ul>
Moderate- intensity statin therapy	<ul> <li>amlodipine-atorvastatin 10–20 mg</li> <li>atorvastatin 10–20 mg</li> <li>ezetimibe-simvastatin 20–40 mg</li> <li>fluvastatin 40–80 mg</li> <li>lovastatin 40 mg</li> <li>pitavastatin <sup>1</sup> 2–4 mg</li> <li>pravastatin 40–80 mg</li> <li>rosuvastatin 5–10 mg</li> <li>simvastatin 20–40 mg</li> </ul>



<sup>1</sup>Non-preferred.

(continued)



# Statin Therapy for Patients with Cardiovascular Disease (continued)

# Best practices

- Educate patients on the benefits of statin medication to prevent cardiovascular events.
- Educate and encourage patients to contact you if they think they are experiencing side effects.
- If a patient has had previous intolerance to statins, consider a statin re-challenge using a different moderate- to highintensity statin. Hydrophilic statins, such as pravastatin, fluvastatin and rosuvastatin, may have lower risk of myalgia side effects.
- Document in the medical record patient conditions that exclude them from taking a statin and submit a claim with appropriate exclusion diagnosis code.
- Encourage patients to obtain 90-day supplies at their pharmacy once they demonstrate they tolerate statin therapy.
- **Note:** Sample medications given to patients will not count for the measure.

## **Exclusions**

- Patients who meet the following criteria anytime during the measurement year:
  - Patients ages 66 and older enrolled in an Institutional Special Needs Plan (I-SNP) or living long term in an institution.
  - Patients ages 66-80 with frailty and advanced illness.
  - Patients ages 81 and older with frailty.
  - Patients in hospice or palliative care.
  - Patients with pregnancy diagnosis.
  - Patients with myalgia, myositis, myopathy, or rhabdomyolysis.
- Patients who meet the following criteria anytime during the measurement year or year prior to the measurement year:
  - Patients with in vitro fertilization or dispensed at least one prescription for clomiphene.
  - Patients with end-stage renal disease (ESRD) or dialysis.
  - Patients with cirrhosis.
  - Patients dispensed dementia medication (see table below).

### **Dementia medications**

Description	Prescription
Cholinesterase inhibitors	<ul><li>donepezil</li><li>galantamine</li></ul>
Miscellaneous central nervous system agents	memantine
Dementia combinations	memantine-donepezil