

MEDICATION ADHERENCE

Medication adherence for **Cholesterol: Statins, Diabetes Medications, Renin Angiotensin System Antagonists (RASA) and High Risk Medications**, are high priority measures for Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS). CMS implements quality initiatives to assure health care for Medicare Beneficiaries through accountability and public disclosure. Please read below for a simple description and "Best Practices" suggestions.

MEASURE DESCRIPTION

DESCRIPTION	BEST PRACTICES
<p>Patients 18 years and older with at least two fills on different dates. Either the same medication or medications in the same drug class.</p> <p>The CMS definition of adherence is the percentage of patients who adhere to their prescribed drug therapy for at least 80% of the time.</p> <p>For High Risk medications Patients who received at least two prescriptions fills for high-risk medications in the same class.</p>	<p>Best practices have shown that writing 90 day supply prescriptions with refills for 1 year correlate with better patient adherence. This will help your patients stick to the treatment plan you have ordered for them, <u>decrease their copays</u>, and improve your Star scores.</p>

OFFICE STAFF PROCEDURE:

- I. Review medication adherence for patients during the AWV "Annual Wellness Visit"
- II. If your patient is reducing or altering your prescribed medication instructions, please address to the patient immediately.
- III. If you are providing samples, please do NOT write a new prescription until those are finished.
- IV. Write a 90-day Rx and encourage patient to enroll into mail-order Rx benefit.
- V. When the refill request comes from the Pharmacy, please verify the 90 day Rx
- VI. Schedule a follow-up visit with patient and recheck for adherence on the NMM "Web Portal" or Health Plans "Provider Portal"

Please ensure your patient completed all preventive screening exams and all encounters were submitted with the proper coding by checking the NMM "Web Portal". Please upload any missing historic preventive screening results onto the Web Portal. For additional questions; please contact Douglas Sullivan, RN Quality Improvement Manager. Email: douglas.sullivan@nmm.cc | Tel: (626) 943-6017