

Data Specifications

Below are the data specifications for measures recommended in the toolkit. Employers should reference this sheet when requesting their data from their data vendor, health plan, pharmacy benefit manager, or insurance broker. Some measures may have standardized definitions from nationally accredited organizations, while others depend on your data vendor's reporting. Either way, it is important for employers to be aware of the parameters that define each measure in order to accurately interpret their data.

Medical and Pharmacy Summary Analytics	
Enrollment Data	Number of members by type (employees/spouses/dependents) Average family size Percentage of males vs. females Average age
Total Expenditures	Medical and pharmacy spending including out-of-pocket expenses for members
Top Conditions and Medications	Prevalence Total expenditures
Total Mental Health and Substance Use Disorder Expenditures	Medical and pharmacy spending

Employers should also consider and discuss how this data can be broken down, or further stratified. Included below are a list of standard stratifications. Some measures may benefit from additional stratifications. Other helpful measures include comparison of workplace data metrics to national, state, regional, and industry benchmarks (if available), as well as total cost per member, condition, or prescriptions.

Many measures exclude certain medical conditions such as cancer and end-of-life care, but there may be other exclusions to consider as well. Employers should discuss these exclusions with their data vendor.

Standard Stratifications
Gender
Age group
Employee type (hourly/salaried)
Relationship to Employee (self/spouse/dependent)
In network/out of network
Health plan type

Additional Data to Consider
Data compared to national, state, local, and industry benchmarks
Total cost per member
Total cost per condition
Total cost per prescription

Prevention

How often are members being exposed to opioids?			
*Opioids Prescriptions	Rate per 1,000 of opioid prescriptions among members 18 years and older		
	Numerator: Number receiving prescription opioids during the measurement year	Denominator: Members 18 years and older	Stratifications: Standard Additional <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Type of Opioid Length of Prescription Long-Acting vs Short-Acting

Why are members being prescribed opioids?			
*Top Conditions Opioids are Most Prescribed for	Top conditions that opioids are most prescribed for among members 18 years and older		
	Numerator: Number receiving prescription opioids for each condition type	Denominator: Members 18 years and older who received prescription opioids during the measurement year	Stratifications: Standard Additional: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prescription Rate per Condition

Are members receiving appropriate care to manage their pain?			
Follow Up Visit Quarterly https://www.cdc.gov/drugoverdose/pdf/prescribing/CDC-DUIP-QualityImprovementAndCareCoordination-508.pdf	Percentage of patients on long-term opioid therapy who have a follow-up visit at least quarterly		
	Numerator: Number of patients who had at least one in-person follow-up visit with the prescribing clinician at least quarterly	Denominator: Number of patients in an outpatient panel of patients 18 years of age or older with ≥ 60 days' supply of opioids within a quarter	Stratifications: Standard

*Indicates measures that do not have national standardized definitions

Are members receiving appropriate care to manage their pain?

<p>Quarterly Pain and Functional Assessments</p> <p>https://www.cdc.gov/drugoverdose/pdf/prescribing/CDC-DUIP-QualityImprovementAndCareCoordination-508.pdf</p>	Percentage of patients on long-term opioid therapy who had at least quarterly pain and functional assessments		
	<p>Numerator: Number of patients with documented pain and functional assessments using a validated clinical assessment tool at least quarterly</p>	<p>Denominator: Number of patients in an outpatient panel of patients 18 years of age or older with ≥ 60 days' supply of opioids within a quarter</p>	<p>Stratifications: Standard</p>
<p>Referral for Nonpharmacologic Therapy</p> <p>https://www.cdc.gov/drugoverdose/pdf/prescribing/CDC-DUIP-QualityImprovementAndCareCoordination-508.pdf</p>	Percentage of patients with chronic pain who had at least one referral or visit to nonpharmacologic		
	<p>Numerator: Number of patients who had at least one referral to nonpharmacologic therapy</p>	<p>Denominator: Number of patients in an outpatient panel of patients 18 years of age or older with chronic pain</p>	<p>Stratifications: Standard</p>

Are members who are prescribed opioids at risk?

<p>Use of Opioids at High Dosage</p> <p>https://www.ncqa.org/hedis/measures/use-of-opioids-at-high-dosage/</p>	Percentage of members 18 years and older who received prescription opioids at a high dosage		
	<p>Numerator: Number receiving prescription opioids at high dosage (average morphine equivalent dose [MED] > 120 mg) for ≥ 15 days during the measurement year</p>	<p>Denominator: Members 18 years and older who received prescription opioids during the measurement year</p>	<p>Stratifications: Standard</p>

***Indicates measures that do not have national standardized definitions**

Are members who are prescribed opioids at risk?			
*Opioid Total Days Covered	Average number of days covered by an opioid prescription for members 18 years and older		
	Numerator: Total number of days that all opioids claims covered	Denominator: Members 18 years and older who received prescription opioids during the measurement year	Stratifications: Standard
*Opioid Lag Days Between Rx	Average number of days lapsed between opioid prescriptions for members 18 years and older		
	Numerator: Total number of days passed between the current prescription fill date and the previous prescription's run-out date	Denominator: Members 18 years and older who received prescription opioids during the measurement year	Stratifications: Standard
Use of Opioids from Multiple Providers https://www.ncqa.org/hedis/measures/use-of-opioids-from-multiple-providers/	For members 18 years and older, the percentage receiving prescription opioids for > 15 days during the measurement year who received opioids from multiple prescribers, multiple pharmacies, or multiple providers and pharmacies; three rates are reported		
	Numerator: Number receiving prescription opioids for ≥15 days during the measurement year who received opioids from multiple prescribers, multiple pharmacies, or multiple providers and pharmacies	Denominator: Members 18 years and older	Stratifications: Standard

Are members overdosing on opioids?			
*Opioid Overdose Rescue (Naloxone) Prescriptions	Rate per 1,000 members that have been prescribed an overdose reversal drug (Narcan/Naloxone) among members 18 years and older		
	Numerator: Number prescribed an overdose reversal drug in the measurement year	Denominator: Members 18 years and older	Stratifications: Standard

***Indicates measures that do not have national standardized definitions**

Are members overdosing on opioids?			
*Opioid Overdose/ Poisoning	Rate per 1,000 members of opioid overdose/poisoning among members 18 years and older; two rates are reported		
	Numerator: Number of (1) patients with an opioid overdose/poisoning or (2) total overdoses/poisonings	Denominator: Members 18 years and older	Stratifications: Standard
*ER Visits due to Overdose	Rate per 1,000 of members that have had a visit to the emergency room (ER) due to overdose/poisoning among members 18 years and older who received prescription opioids		
	Numerator: Number of members who had an ER visit due to an overdose/poisoning	Denominator: Members 18 years and older who received prescription opioids	Stratifications: Standard
Concurrent Use of Opioids and Benzodiazepines https://www.pqaalliance.org/assets/Measures/PQA%20Opioid%20Core%20Measure%20Set%20Description%202019-02-22.pdf	Percentage of members 18 years and older with concurrent use of prescription opioids and benzodiazepines during the measurement year		
	Numerator: Number with concurrent use of opioids and benzodiazepines for 30 or more cumulative days during the measurement year	Denominator: Members 18 years and older with multiple prescription claims for opioids with unique dates of service, for which the sum of the days' supply is 15 or more days	Stratifications: Standard

Treatment and Recovery

How many members have been diagnosed with a substance use disorder?			
*Substance Use Disorder Diagnosis (Dx)	Rate per 1,000 of members 18 years and older who have been diagnosed with substance use disorder (SUD)		
	Numerator: Number with substance use disorder (SUD) diagnosis	Denominator: Members 18 years and older	Stratifications: Standard
*Opioid Use Disorder Diagnosis (Dx)	Rate per 1,000 of members 18 years and older who have been diagnosed with opioid use disorder (OUD)		
	Numerator: Number with opioid use disorder (OUD) diagnosis	Denominator: Members 18 years and older	Stratifications: Standard

***Indicates measures that do not have national standardized definitions**

How many members have been diagnosed with a substance use disorder?			
*Alcohol Use Disorder Diagnosis (Dx)	Rate per 1,000 of members 18 years and older who have been diagnosed with alcohol use disorder (AUD)		
	Numerator: Number with alcohol use disorder (AUD) diagnosis	Denominator: Members 18 years and older	Stratifications: Standard

Are members with a substance use disorder getting treatment?			
Identification of Alcohol and Other Drug Services https://www.ncqa.org/hedis/measures/identification-of-alcohol-and-other-drug-services/	Number and percentage of members who had a service for alcohol and other drug (AOD) abuse or dependence (i.e., a claim with both a diagnosis of AOD abuse or dependence and a specific AOD-related service) during the measurement year		
	Numerator: Number who had a service for substance abuse or dependence	Denominator: Members 18 years and older with substance abuse or dependence diagnosis during the measurement year	Stratifications: Standard
Use of Pharmacotherapy for Opioid Use Disorder http://www.qualityforum.org/qps/3400	Percentage of members ages 18 to 64 with an OUD who filled a prescription for or were administered or ordered an FDA-approved medication for the disorder during the measure year. The measure will report any medications used in medication-assisted treatment of opioid dependence and addiction and four separate rates representing the following types of FDA-approved drug products: buprenorphine; oral naltrexone; long-acting, injectable naltrexone; and methadone.		
	Numerator: Number who filled a prescription for or were administered or ordered an FDA-approved medication for the disorder during the measure year	Denominator: Number of members ages 18 to 64 with at least one encounter with a diagnosis of opioid abuse, dependence, or remission (primary or other) at any time during the measurement year	Stratifications: Standard Additional: • Duration of Use Per Prescription

***Indicates measures that do not have national standardized definitions**

Are members with a substance use disorder getting treatment?

<p>Counseling on Psychosocial and Pharmacologic Treatment Options for Opioid Addiction</p> <p>https://aspe.hhs.gov/report/review-medication-assisted-treatment-guidelines-and-measures-opioid-and-alcohol-use/e-summary-medication-assisted-treatment-quality-measures</p>	<p>Percentage of patients 18 years and older with a diagnosis of current opioid addiction who were counseled regarding psychosocial and pharmacologic treatment options for opioid addiction with the 12-month reporting period</p>		
	<p>Numerator: Number counseled regarding psychosocial and pharmacologic treatment options for opioid addiction with the 12-month reporting period</p>	<p>Denominator: Members 18 years and older with a diagnosis of current opioid addiction</p>	<p>Stratifications: Standard</p>
<p>Follow-Up After High Intensity Care for Substance Use Disorder</p> <p>https://www.ncqa.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/02/20190208_06_FUI.pdf</p>	<p>Percentage of acute inpatient hospitalizations, residential treatment or detoxification visits for a diagnosis of substance use disorder (SUD) that result in a follow-up visit or service for SUD among members 13 years and older</p>		
	<p>Numerator: Number of acute inpatient hospitalizations, residential treatment or detoxification visits for a diagnosis of SUD that result in a follow-up visit or service for SUD</p>	<p>Denominator: Members 13 years and older with a diagnosis of current opioid addiction</p>	<p>Stratifications: Standard</p>