

Medication Adherence for Diabetes Medications (MAD)

HEDIS Tip Sheet MY 2025



Measure definition	Plans(s)	Quality Program(s)	Collection and Reporting
Percentage of members ages 18 years of age and older with a prescription for diabetes medication who fill their prescription at least 80% of the time in the measurement period	Medicare	CMS Star Rating	Part D Prescription Claims: Pharmacy Data

Best practices for quality care

- Provide clear instructions, highlighting benefits and risks of prescribed medications. Clarify the purpose of patients' medications and emphasize the importance of adherence. Confirm patients understand medication instructions.
- Provide written instructions to reinforce education on proper medication usage and guidance on managing potential side effects.
- Use motivational interviewing and goal setting to boost adherence.
- Ensure your office issues timely refills or prescriptions.
- Ask about and address any potential barriers to adherence, such as concerns related to health benefits, side effects, costs or challenges with accessing medications from the pharmacy.
- Suggest tools like pillboxes, medication apps, smartphone alarms or other reminders to ensure timely medication intake. Offer your office's own and text reminders for adherence if available.

Quality score improvement tips

- Recommend auto-refill or mail-order options.
- Prescribe 90-day supplies once stable.
- Schedule a follow-up visit within 30 days to assess new medication effectiveness.
- Members must use their Part D pharmacy benefit to close the care gap. This measure is reported through Part D claims only.
- Members qualify for the measure on the second medication fill date, but the measurement period begins when the member fills the medication for the first time.

Measure Medications:

These classes of diabetes medications are included in this measure		
• Biguanides • Dipeptidyl peptidase (DPP-4) - IV inhibitors • Sulfonylureas	• Meglitinides • Glucagon-like peptide-1 (GLP-1) receptor agonists (for DM treatment only)	• Thiazolidinediones • Sodium glucose cotransporter 2 (SGLT2) inhibitors

Exclusions

- Members who used hospice services or elected to use a hospice benefit any time during the measurement period
- Members with a diagnosis that indicates end-stage renal disease (ESRD) or dialysis coverage dates in the measurement period
- Members with one or more prescriptions for insulin during the measurement period

How WellSense can help

HEDIS tip sheets are designed to help WellSense providers improve and report the quality of care delivered to WellSense members across key metrics.

If you have questions around HEDIS documentation and quality measures, please email the Quality Team at WS_Quality_Dept@wellsense.org.