

2020 MCAS MEASURE: USE OF OPIOIDS AT HIGHER DOSAGE IN PERSONS WITHOUT CANCER (OHD)

Measure Steward: Pharmacy Quality Alliance (PQA)

Gold Coast Health Plan's (GCHP) goal is to help its providers gain compliance with their annual Managed Care Accountability Set (MCAS) scores by providing guidance and resources. This tip sheet will provide the key components to the MCAS measure, "Use of Opioids at Higher Dosage in Persons Without Cancer (OHD)."

Measure Description: Measures the percentage of beneficiaries age 18 and older as of January 1 of the measurement year who received prescriptions for opioids with an average daily dosage greater than or equal to 90 morphine milligram equivalents (MME) over a period of 90 days or more.

Data Collection Method: Administrative¹

List of Opioid Medications^{1,2}

Butorphanol	Methadone
Codeine	Morphine
Dihydrocodeine	Opium
Fentanyl	Oxycodone
Hydrocodone	Oxymorphone
Hydromorphone	Pentazocine
Levorphanol	Tapentadol
Meperidine	Tramadol

¹ Excludes injectable formulations and cough and cold formulations including elixirs and combination products containing antitussives, decongestants, antihistamines, and expectorants.

² Excludes all buprenorphine products, which are partial opioid agonists and not expected to be associated with overdose risk in the same dose-dependent manner as doses for full agonist opioids.

Exclusionary Criteria

Members with a diagnosis of cancer during the measurement year are excluded from the OHD measure. Click [here](#) for a list of the exclusionary ICD-10-CM diagnoses.

Best Practices:

- ▶ Create a checklist of recommended actions when considering long-term opioid therapy.
- ▶ Establish goals for pain and function, discuss risks and benefits, and use strategies to mitigate any risk.
- ▶ The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has created a set of guidelines to prescribing opioids for chronic pain. Visit the CDC's [website](#) or [click here](#) to view this resource.
- ▶ Refer to Turn the Tide RX's [Pocket Card for Prescribing Opioids for Chronic Pain](#), an adaptation for quick reference of the CDC prescribing guidelines.
- ▶ Refer to the GCHP Pharmacy Department's opioid prescribing guidelines toolkit, which includes recommendations for daily oral doses: [Opioid Prescribing Guideline - Recommendations for Safe Use of Opioid Medications](#).
- ▶ Ensure your documentation is clear and concise.
- ▶ Use proper coding.

¹ Measures reported using the *administrative* data collection method report on the entire eligible population and use only administrative data sources (e.g. claims, encounter, lab, immunization registries) to evaluate if services were performed.