

Memorandum

To: Gold Coast Health Plan Primary Care Providers

From: Kim Osajda, RN, MSN
Director of Quality Improvement

Re: **Annual Monitoring of Patients on ACE inhibitors, ARBs, digoxin, and diuretics**

Date: June 8, 2017

It is recommended that patients on certain medications have monitoring of laboratory values on a periodic basis. This recommendation is made for patients on angiotensin converting enzyme (ACE) inhibitors or angiotensin receptor blockers (ARBs), digoxin, and diuretics. Yearly laboratory monitoring for members on these medications is included in the Healthcare Effectiveness Data Information Set (HEDIS®) measures. In past years, Gold Coast Health Plan (GCHP) has performed well on these measures. However, GCHP failed to achieve the 25th percentile required by the state Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) in the 2016 HEDIS® Survey.

A trend that begins in 2013, identified through administrative data, shows laboratory monitoring every other year. As a reminder to GCHP's providers, it is good medicine to monitor the creatinine and potassium levels of patients on ACE inhibitors, ARBs or diuretics annually.

GCHP reports the outcomes of the HEDIS® **Annual Monitoring for Patients on Persistent Medications (MPM)** measure to the National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA) and DHCS. The measure looks at the percentage of members 18 years of age and older who received at least 180 treatment days of ambulatory medication therapy for a select therapeutic agent during the measurement year and at least one therapeutic monitoring event for the therapeutic agent in the measurement year. The measure specifically focuses on annual monitoring of members who are on ACE inhibitors or ARBs, digoxin, and diuretics.

[Click here](#) for the GCHP provider tip sheet on the MPM measure.

If you have questions, please contact GCHP's Quality Improvement Department at 1-805-437-5740 or at hedis@goldchp.org.