

2022 MCAS MEASURE: CONCURRENT USE OF OPIOIDS AND BENZODIAZEPINES (COB)

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, "*Concurrent Use of Opioids and Benzodiazepines (COB)*."

Measure Description: *Measures the percentage of beneficiaries ages 18 and older with concurrent use of prescription opioids and benzodiazepines.*

Concurrent Use:

- Two or more prescription claims for any benzodiazepine with different dates of service.
- Concurrent use of opioids and benzodiazepines for 30 or more cumulative days.

Data Collection Method: Administrative¹

List of Opioid and Benzodiazepine Medications

- Click [here](#) for the list of NDC codes used to identify opioids and benzodiazepines.

Opioids ^{1,2}	Benzodiazepines ^{2,3,4}
Benzohydrocodone	Alprazolam
Buprenorphine ³	Chlordiazepoxide
Butorphanol	Clobazam
Codeine	Clonazepam
Dihydrocodeine	Clorazepate
Fentanyl	Diazepam
Hydrocodone	Estazolam
Hydromorphone	Flurazepam
Levorphanol	Lorazepam
Meperidine	Midazolam
Methadone	Oxazepam
Morphine	Quazepam
Opium	Temazepam
Oxycodone	Traizolam
Oxymorphone	
Pentazocine	
Tapentadol	
Tramadol	

¹ Excludes the following: injectable formulations; sufentanil (used in a supervised setting); and single-agent and combination buprenorphine products used to treat opioid use disorder (i.e., buprenorphine sublingual tablets, Probuphine® Implant kit subcutaneous implant, and all buprenorphine / naloxone combination products).

² Includes combination products and prescription opioid cough medications.

³ Excludes injectable formulations.

⁴ Includes combination products.

COB Clinical Code Sets

For billing, reimbursement and reporting of services completed, submit claims in a timely manner with the appropriate medical codes for all clinical conditions evaluated and services completed.



Exclusionary Criteria

Members with a cancer diagnosis, or a sickle cell disease diagnosis, or in hospice anytime during the measurement year are excluded from the COB measure. Click [here](#) for a list of 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.
- ▶ GCHP offers free health education services, materials, classes, and online resources to help members achieve a healthy lifestyle. Providers can contact the Health Education Department or refer patients / guardians / caregivers to the following information:
 - Providers, call: 1-805-437-5718
 - Members, call: 1-888-301-1228 / TTY 1-888-310-7347
 - GCHP Website, Health Education Resources (provided in English and Spanish): [Click Here](#)

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.