

## 2021 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:** Administrative<sup>1</sup>

### List of Opioid Medications<sup>1,2</sup>

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

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

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

<sup>2</sup> 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.

### OHD 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 who were in hospice care anytime during the measurement year are excluded from the OHD measure. Click [here](#) for a list of the exclusionary codes.

### 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.

<sup>1</sup> 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.