

## What is HEDIS®?

HEDIS® (Healthcare Effectiveness Data Information Set) is a widely used set of performance measures in the managed care industry, developed and maintained by NCQA. HEDIS® measures results and drives improvement efforts surrounding best practices.

## What is the HEDIS® FUI measure looking at?

The percentage of acute inpatient hospitalizations, residential treatment, or detoxification visits for members aged 13+ seen for substance use who had a follow-up visit for substance use disorder.

## Why is the HEDIS® FUI measure important?

Individuals receiving SUD care in high intensity settings are especially vulnerable to losing contact with the health care system after discharge. Failure to ensure timely follow-up can result in negative outcomes such as continued substance use, relapse, high utilization of intensive care services and mortality.

## Who is included in the measure?

- Members with an inpatient stay with a principal diagnosis of substance abuse disorder
- Members aged 13+ covered under Commercial, Medicaid, or Medicare LOB

## Which Members are excluded?

- Non-acute inpatient stays are excluded.
- Members using hospice services at any time during the year.

## When does the Member 'pass' the measure?

When they attend a follow-up visit with any practitioner within 7 (or 30) days after the episode/discharge date  
Please note: Visits may NOT occur on the same date of discharge

## What counts as a follow up visit?

Any of the following services *having a substance use disorder diagnosis*:

- Acute or non-acute inpatient admission
- Outpatient behavioral health or SUD service
- Telehealth/telephone visit
- Intensive outpatient therapy
- Partial hospitalization visit
- Opioid treatment service
- Non-residential substance abuse treatment service
- Residential behavioral health treatment
- Community mental health center service
- Observation visit
- E-visit or virtual check-in
- Behavioral health or SUD assessment
- Pharmacotherapy dispensing event

*Note: Follow-up does not include detoxification.*

## What can providers do to help improve HEDIS® FUI rates?

- Use appropriate documentation and correct coding.
- Maintain appointment availability for patient with recent hospital admissions.
- Explain the importance of follow-up to your patients.
- Coordinate assistance for members with competing social demands including childcare, transportation, and housing that otherwise prevent them from attending treatment appointments.
- Reach out to patients who do not keep initial appointments and reschedule them as soon as possible.
- Telehealth visits with the appropriate principle diagnosis will meet the follow-up criteria.
- Provide timely submission of claims and encounter data.

\* HEDIS® is a registered trademark of the National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA).