

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® SMD measure looking at?

The percentage of members aged 18 – 64 with schizophrenia or schizoaffective disorder AND diabetes who had both an LDL-C and an HbA1c test during the calendar year.

Why is the HEDIS® SMD measure important?

Persons with serious mental illness who use antipsychotics are at increased risk of cardiovascular diseases and diabetes; because of this, screening and monitoring of these conditions is important. Lack of appropriate care for diabetes and cardiovascular disease for people with schizophrenia or bipolar disorder who use antipsychotic medications can lead to worsening health and death. Addressing these physical health needs is an important way to improve health, quality of life and economic outcomes downstream.¹

Who is included in the measure?

- Members with either one acute inpatient encounter or two outpatient encounters with a diagnosis of either schizophrenia or schizoaffective disorder during the current calendar year; AND have a diabetes diagnosis during the current or previous calendar year.
- Medicaid members aged 18-64.

Which Members are excluded?

- Members using hospice services at any time during the year.

When does the Member 'pass' the measure?

When they have both an HbA1c test and LDL-C test performed.

What can providers do to help improve HEDIS® SMD rates?

- Document all elements of the exam, including response to medication and test results
- For patients that do not have regular contact with their PCP, coordinate medical management – including communication of lab results - with PCP
- Adjust therapy to improve HbA1c, LDL, and BP levels; follow-up with patients to monitor changes
- Give any patient caregiver instructions on the course of treatment, labs or future appointments
- Consider additional monitoring of associated factors (e.g. BMI, plasma glucose level, lipid profile)

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¹ NCQA Measures and Technical Resources Website: <https://www.ncqa.org/hedis/measures/diabetes-and-cardiovascular-disease-screening-and-monitoring-for-people-with-schizophrenia-or-bipolar-disorder/>