

PHARMACY QUALITY ALLIANCE (PQA)

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UNDER THE PRECEPTORSHIP OF DR. CRAIG STERN

OBJECTIVES

- ① Discuss the Pharmacy Quality Alliance (PQA) Measures – What are they and how are they developed?
- ② Discuss and provide examples for individual PQA Measures within each domain
- ③ Discuss the Proportion of Days Covered (PDC) method and provide an example calculation
- ④ Discuss how PQA Measures are being implemented in health care settings

1. PQA: THE BASICS

- A. About PQA
- B. PQA Measures
- C. PQA Measure Development

WHAT IS PQA?

- ▶ An organization developed in 2006 to improve health care quality and patient safety
- ▶ PQA membership is represented by a broad range of stakeholders (e.g., pharmacy providers, health plans, PBMs, pharmaceutical industry members, etc.)
- ▶ Promotes appropriate medication use and strategies for improvement
- ▶ Created performance measures to evaluate appropriate use of medications and pharmacy services

PQA MEASURES

- I. Adherence/Persistence
- II. Diabetes Medication
- III. Medication Safety
- IV. Medication Therapy Management (MTM)
- V. Respiratory Medication

PQA MEASURE DEVELOPMENT

- ▶ **Measure Advisement Group (MAG)**
 - ▶ Prioritize concepts for development
- ▶ **Measure Development Teams (MDTs)**
 - ▶ Comprised of PQA members with specific strengths and expertise
 - ▶ Each MDT develops one measure concept
- ▶ **Task Forces (TFs)**
 - ▶ Includes external experts
 - ▶ Formed when external expertise is needed
- ▶ **Stakeholder Advisory Panels (SAP)**
 - ▶ Review the measure development work of MDTs and TFs

2. PQA: MEASURES SET

- A. Individual PQA Measures for each set
- B. Examples of PQA Measures

I. ADHERENCE/PERSISTENCE

▶ **Primary Medication Non-Adherence**

- ▶ E-prescription not obtained within 30 days

▶ **Proportion of Days Covered (PDC) – 80%**

- ▶ Antiretroviral Drugs – 90%
- ▶ Non-warfarin Oral Anticoagulant
- ▶ Hypertension
 - ▶ Beta-Blocker
 - ▶ Calcium Channel Blocker
 - ▶ Renin Angiotensin System Antagonist
- ▶ Diabetes
 - ▶ Biguanide
 - ▶ Dipeptidyl Peptidase-IV Inhibitor
 - ▶ Sulfonylurea
 - ▶ Thiazolidinedione
- ▶ Hyperlipidemia
 - ▶ Statin

II. DIABETES MEDICATION

▶ Diabetes Medication Dosing (DOS)

- ▶ Percentage of patients who were dispensed a dose higher than the daily recommended dose for:
 - ▶ Biguanides
 - ▶ Dipeptidyl Peptidase-IV Inhibitors
 - ▶ Sulfonylureas
 - ▶ Thiazolidinediones

▶ Statin Use in Persons with Diabetes

- ▶ Percentage of patients ages 40 – 75 who are receiving diabetes and statin medications

III. MEDICATION SAFETY

▶ Antipsychotic Use in Children

- ▶ Children < 5 years old receiving antipsychotic medications

▶ Antipsychotic Use in Persons with Dementia

- ▶ Individuals \geq 65 years old (with dementia & without psychotic disorder) receiving antipsychotic medications
- ▶ Long-stay nursing home residents

▶ Drug-Drug Interactions

- ▶ Target medication plus precipitant medication

III. MEDICATION SAFETY_(CONT.)

▶ Use of Benzodiazepines in the Elderly

- ▶ Individuals \geq 65 years old receiving benzodiazepine medications $>$ 90 days

▶ Use of High-Risk Medications in the Elderly

- ▶ Individuals \geq 65 years old receiving high-risk medication
- ▶ American Geriatric Society (AGS) Beers Criteria

IV. MEDICATION THERAPY MANAGEMENT

- ▶ **Completion Rate for Comprehensive Medication Review (CMR)**
 - ▶ Eligible members for medication therapy management (MTM) services and received CMR
 - ▶ Example:
 - ▶ Eligible members: 100
 - ▶ Eligible members who received CMR: 60
 - ▶ **Completion Rate:** $60/100 = 0.6$ (60%)

V. RESPIRATORY MEDICATION

▶ Medication Therapy for Patients with Asthma

▶ Absence of Controller

- ▶ Dispensed > 3 canisters of short acting beta₂ agonist inhalers and did not receive controller therapy (90-day period)

▶ Suboptimal Control

- ▶ Dispensed > 3 canisters of a short acting beta₂ agonist inhaler (90-day period)

3. PROPORTION OF DAYS COVERED (PDC)

- A. Description of PDC Method
- B. Example PDC Calculation

WHAT IS PDC?

- ▶ Standard method to calculate medication adherence
- ▶ Uses data from prescription drug plans and pharmacies
- ▶ Based on fill dates and days supply for each prescription fill
- ▶ 80% threshold (90% for antiretroviral)

PDC CALCULATION

- ▶ **PDC = Numerator/Denominator**
- ▶ **Denominator**
 - ▶ Number of days between first prescription fill and end of measurement period
- ▶ **Numerator**
 - ▶ Number of days covered by prescription fills
 - ▶ Also credits overlapping days supply due to early refill

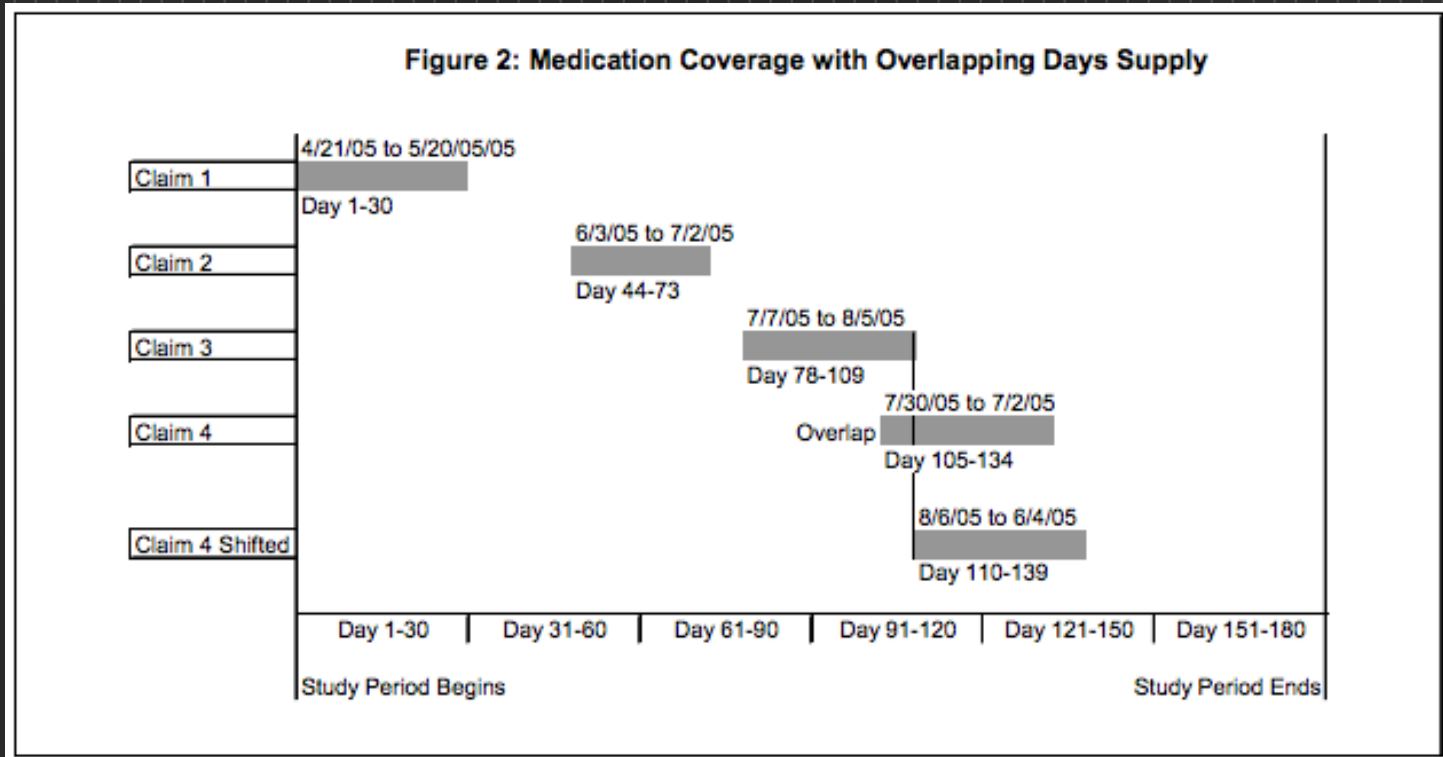
PDC CALCULATION_(CONT.)

1. Determine the measurement period (Denominator)
2. Determine amount of days the patient was covered by drug during the measurement period (Numerator)
3. Divide Step 2 by Step 1 and multiply by 100 to get PDC
4. Count number of patients with PDC of at least 80% and divide by total number of eligible patients

Reference:

PDC CALCULATION_(CONT.)

► Early Refill



Reference:

PDC CALCULATION: EXAMPLE

▶ Example Health Plan: **LAKESHOW HEALTH**

▶ **Measure:** Percentage of patients who filled at least two prescriptions for a biguanide and met the PDC threshold of 80% during the measurement year

▶ **Member ID:** XXXXX123

▶ **Member Claims History (2015)**

▶ 01/14/15: Metformin HCl 1000 mg (60 tabs – 30 days supply)

▶ 02/14/15: Metformin HCl 1000 mg (60 tabs – 30 days supply)

▶ 04/14/15: Metformin HCl 1000 mg (60 tabs – 30 days supply)

▶ 06/14/15: Metformin HCl 1000 mg (60 tabs – 30 days supply)

▶ 10/14/15: Metformin HCl 1000 mg (60 tabs – 30 days supply)

▶ 11/07/15: Metformin HCl 1000 mg (60 tabs – 30 days supply)

PDC CALCULATION: EXAMPLE_(CONT.)

Member ID: XXXXX123	LAKESHOW HEALTH
Numerator = 30 + 30 + 30 + 30 + 30 + 30 = 180 days	Measurement Period: 01/01/15 – 12/31/15
Denominator = 365 – 14 = 351 days	Eligible Members: 500
PDC = $(180/351) \times 100 = 51.3 \%$	PDC ≥ 80%: 375
	Percentage = $(375/500) \times 100 = 75\%$

- ▶ **Measure:** Percentage of patients who filled at least two prescriptions for a biguanide and met the PDC threshold of 80% during the measurement year: **75%**

4. HOW PQA MEASURES ARE USED

- A. Ratings Programs
- B. Marketplace
- C. Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS)
- D. Pro Pharma

RATINGS PROGRAMS: MARKETPLACE

- ▶ **Quality Rating System (QRS)**
 - ▶ Quality data collection and reporting tool
 - ▶ The Affordable Care Act requires the US Department of Health & Human Services (HHS) to **develop a system that rates Qualified Health Plans (QHP)**
 - ▶ Provides ratings of QHPs based on **health care quality, outcomes, and cost**
 - ▶ Marketplaces are **required to display QHP quality ratings** on Marketplace websites

PQA MEASURES: MARKETPLACE

▶ The 2016 Quality Rating System (QRS) Measure Set

▶ Includes PQA Measures for adherence, i.e., Proportion of Days Covered (PDC)

1. PDC – Renin Angiotensin System Antagonists (RASA)
2. PDC – Diabetes All Classes
3. PDC – Statins

▶ Qualified Health Plans (QHP) that offer coverage must report adherence measures using the PDC method

RATINGS PROGRAMS: CMS

▶ Medicare Star Ratings

▶ Medicare Part D Star Rating

1. Drug Plan Customer Service
2. Member Complaints
3. Member Experience
4. Drug Safety and Accuracy of Pricing

▶ Medicare Advantage Prescription Drug Plan (MA-PD) and stand-alone Prescription Drug Plan (PDP)

- ▶ Ratings range from 1 – 5 stars
- ▶ New star ratings are released each year

PQA MEASURES: CMS

▶ Medicare Part D Star Ratings

- ▶ 15 individual measures of quality for 2016 Part D Ratings
- ▶ 5 measures from PQA for medication adherence, medication safety, and MTM
 1. PDC – Statins
 2. PDC – Renin Angiotensin System Antagonists
 3. PDC – Oral Diabetes Medications
 4. Safety – High Risk Medication in the Elderly
 5. MTM – Comprehensive Medication Review (CMR)

PQA MEASURES: PRO PHARMA

► Patient Specific Query (PSQ)

PQA Criteria		
Criteria Name	Criteria	GPI
Performance Measures		
Proportion of Days Covered (PDC)	<p>The percentage of patients ≥18 years who met the PDC threshold of 80 % during the measurement period</p> <p>Report a rate for each of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Beta-blocker (BB) - Renin Angiotensin System (RAS) Antagonists - Calcium Channel Blocker (CCB) - Statin - Biguanide - Sulfonylurea - Thiazolidinedione - Dipeptidyl Peptidase-IV (DPP-IV) Inhibitor - Diabetes - Anti-retroviral (threshold of 90% for at least 2 medications) 	<p>33 (BB)</p> <p>361000, 361500, 361700 (RAS)</p> <p>34 (CCB)</p> <p>394000 (statin)</p> <p>272500 (biguanide)</p> <p>272000 (sulfonylurea)</p> <p>276070 (TZD)</p> <p>275500 (DPP-IV)</p> <p>271000 (Insulin)</p> <p>121000 (antiretroviral)</p>

FINAL THOUGHTS

- ▶ The quality of medication management and use in health care has a large impact on healthcare outcomes and overall cost
- ▶ PQA has developed measures to address areas in health care that are essential in improving quality and safety
- ▶ PQA Measures are continuing to grow as new measures are being developed each year
- ▶ With a focus on improving quality and safety, patients can be confident in the care they are receiving from their healthcare providers

THANK YOU

Questions?

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