PHARMACY QUALITY ALLIANCE (PQA)

ANDREW MAGNAYE, PHARM.D. CANDIDATE 2016
MIDWESTERN UNIVERSITY, CHICAGO COLLEGE OF PHARMACY
PRO PHARMA PHARMACEUTICAL CONSULTANTS, INC.
UNDER THE PRECEPTORSHIP OF DR. CRAIG STERN

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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 ≥ 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 ≥ 65 years old receiving benzodiazepine medications > 90 days

- **Use of High-Risk Medications in the Elderly**
  - Individuals ≥ 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: $\frac{60}{100} = 0.6$ (60%)
V. RESPIRATORY MEDICATION

- Medication Therapy for Patients with Asthma
  - Absence of Controller
    - Dispensed > 3 canisters of short acting beta_2 agonist inhalers and did not receive controller therapy (90-day period)
  - Suboptimal Control
    - Dispensed > 3 canisters of a short acting beta_2 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

Figure 2: Medication Coverage with Overlapping Days Supply

- Claim 1: 4/21/05 to 5/20/05/05
- Claim 2: 6/3/05 to 7/2/05
- Claim 3: 7/7/05 to 8/5/05
- Claim 4: 7/30/05 to 7/2/05
- Claim 4 Shifted: 8/6/05 to 6/4/05

Days: 1-30, 31-60, 61-90, 91-120, 121-150, 151-180
Study Period Begins: Day 1-30
Study Period Ends: Day 151-180

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.)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Member ID: XXXXX123</th>
<th>LAKESHOW HEALTH</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Numerator</strong> = 30 + 30 + 30 + 30 + 30 + 30 = 180 days</td>
<td><strong>Measurement Period:</strong> 01/01/15 – 12/31/15</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Denominator</strong> = 365 – 14 = 351 days</td>
<td><strong>Eligible Members:</strong> 500</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>PDC</strong> = (180/351) x 100 = <strong>51.3 %</strong></td>
<td><strong>PDC ≥ 80%:</strong> 375</td>
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<tr>
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<td><strong>Percentage</strong> = (375/500) x 100 = <strong>75%</strong></td>
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- **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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Criteria Name</th>
<th>Criteria</th>
<th>GPI</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Performance Measures</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Proportion of Days Covered (PDC)</td>
<td>The percentage of patients ≥18 years who met the PDC threshold of 80% during the measurement period</td>
<td>33 (BB)</td>
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<td>Report a rate for each of the following:</td>
<td>361000, 361500, 361700 (RAS)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Beta-blocker (BB)</td>
<td>34 (CCB)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Renin Angiotensin System (RAS) Antagonists</td>
<td>394000 (statin)</td>
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<tr>
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<td>- Calcium Channel Blocker (CCB)</td>
<td>272500 (biguanide)</td>
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<td>- Statin</td>
<td>272000 (sulfonylurea)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>- Biguanide</td>
<td>276070 (TZD)</td>
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<tr>
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<td>- Sulfonylurea</td>
<td>275500 (DPP-IV)</td>
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<td>- Thiazolidinedione</td>
<td>271000 (Insulin)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>- Dipeptidyl Peptidase-IV (DPP-IV) Inhibitor</td>
<td>121000 (antiretroviral)</td>
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<td>- Diabetes</td>
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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?
REFERENCES