

HEDIS® Measure

Follow-Up After High-Intensity Care for Substance Use Disorder (FUI)

Data collection method:

Administrative (Claims)

Measure description:

The percentage of acute inpatient hospitalizations, residential treatment or withdrawal management visits for a diagnosis of substance use disorder among enrollees 13 years of age and older that result in a follow-up visit or service for substance use disorder. Two rates are reported:

- The percentage of visits or discharges for which the enrollee received follow-up for substance use disorder within the 30 days after the visit or discharge.
- The percentage of visits or discharges for which the enrollee received follow-up for substance use disorder within the 7 days after the visit or discharge.

Numerator compliance:

30-Day Follow-Up - A follow-up visit or event with any practitioner for a principal diagnosis of substance use disorder within the 30 days after an episode for substance use disorder. Do not include visits that occur on the date of the denominator episode.



7-Day Follow-Up - A follow-up visit or event with any practitioner for a principal diagnosis of substance use disorder within the 7 days after an episode for substance use disorder. Do not include visits that occur on the date of the denominator episode.

For both indicators, any of the following meet criteria for a follow-up visit:

- An acute or non-acute inpatient admission or residential behavioral health stay with a principal diagnosis of substance use disorder on the discharge claim.
- Outpatient, intensive outpatient encounter, partial hospitalization, non-residential substance abuse treatment facility, or community mental health center visit with a principal diagnosis of substance use disorder.
- Telehealth visit, or substance use disorder service with a principal diagnosis of substance use disorder.
- Opioid treatment service that bills monthly or weekly or residential behavioral health treatment with a principal diagnosis of substance use disorder.
- Telephone, e-visit or virtual check-in with a principal diagnosis of substance use disorder.
- Pharmacotherapy dispensing event or medication treatment event.
- Substance abuse counseling and surveillance service.

NOTE: Follow-up does not include withdrawal management. Exclude all withdrawal management events when identifying follow-up care for numerator compliance.

Best practices:

- Discuss the importance of timely, recommended follow-up visits
- Assist patient with scheduling an in person or telehealth follow-up visit as soon as possible.
- Discuss the importance of seeking timely, recommended follow-up with a mental health provider.
- Ensure patient and caregivers review and understand discharge instructions and the next steps in their care for follow-up.
- Reach out to patients who cancel appointment and assist them with rescheduling as soon as possible.
- Coordinate care with all involved in the treatment process.
- Use appropriate clinical documentation and correct coding.

Numerator Codes:

There is a large list of approved codes used to identify services included in this measure. For more information see [HEDIS Measures and Technical Resources at NCQA.org](https://www.ncqa.org/hedis/measures-and-technical-resources).

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