

HEDIS® Measure

# Initiation and Engagement of Substance Use Disorder Treatment (IET)

## Data collection method:

Administrative (Claims)

## Measure description:

The percentage of new substance use disorder (SUD) episodes that result in treatment initiation and engagement.

Two rates are reported:

- **Initiation of SUD Treatment.** The percentage of new SUD episodes that result in treatment initiation through an inpatient SUD admission, outpatient visit, intensive outpatient encounter, partial hospitalization, telehealth visits or medication treatment within 14 days.
- **Engagement of SUD Treatment.** The percentage of new SUD episodes that have evidence of treatment engagement within 34 days of initiation.

## Exclusions:

- Enrollees in hospice or using hospice services any time during the measurement year.
- Enrollees who died any time during the measurement year.



**Best practices:**

- Discuss the importance of timely, recommended follow-up visits.
- Use the same diagnosis for substance use at each follow-up.
- Coordinate care between behavioral health and primary care.
- Share progress notes and updates.
- Reach out to patients who cancel appointments and assist them.
- Consider telemedicine visit when in-person visits are not available.

**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](#).

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