

Medication Adherence for Hypertension (RAS Antagonists)

## **Measure Description**

The percentage of patients with a prescription for a blood pressure medication who fill their prescription often enough to cover at least 80% of the time prescribed.

## Calculation

#### [Numerator] = Measure Compliance

The number of patients 18 years and older who have a proportion of days covered (PDC) of 80% or greater for their RAS antagonist medication during the measurement period.

#### [Denominator] = Measure Population

The number of patients 18 years and older with at least two fills of their RAS antagonist medication on unique dates of service during the measurement period.

### **Blood Pressure Medications**

- ACEI (Angiotensin Converting Enzyme Inhibitor)
- ARB (Angiotensin Receptor Blocker)
- DRI (Direct Renin Inhibitor)

### **Exclusions**

- Beneficiaries who meet the following criteria during the measurement period:
  - In hospice
  - ESRD diagnosis or dialysis coverage dates
  - One or more prescriptions for sacubitril/valsartan

## **Strategies for Rate Improvement**

- Identify and address any barriers to non-adherence at every visit.
- Provide clear instructions and emphasize the benefits of adherence as well as the risks of non-adherence.
- Advise patients to contact their provider if experiencing any adverse effects.
- Once patients are on a stable regimen, prescribe 100-day supplies through their preferred pharmacy or mail-order pharmacy.
- Offer accessible solutions to adherence such as the use of pill boxes, bubble packs, text reminders, and auto-refills.
- Encourage patients to fill prescriptions using their L.A. Care pharmacy benefit. Gap closure is dependent on pharmacy claims.
- Medicare 2025 Part c & D Star Ratings Technical Notes. https://www.cms.gov/files/document/2025-star-ratings-technical-notes.pdf
- Outcomes. Raising Adherence, Digitally: Survey Highlights Opportunities for Pharmacies and Payers to Boost Medication Compliance. Pqaalliance.org. Published 2024. Accessed December 30, 2024. https://www.pqaalliance.org/index.php?categor y=guest+blog&id=317%3Araising-adherence-digitally-survey-highlightsopportunities-for-pharmacies-and-payers-to-boost-medication-compliance&option=com\_dailyplanetblog&view=entry

# What is PDC?

The percent of days a patient has medication on hand based on their prescription refill history.