

Improving the Management of Oral Medications

OASIS Accuracy is Critical to Improvement

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Objectives

- Understand how the oral medication management quality measure is calculated.
- Learn how to implement an effective oral medication management program in your agency.

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Understanding the Measure

- Only consider medications taken “PO.”
- Patients who are independent in taking oral medications at SOC/ROC are excluded.
- Patients who are nonresponsive, expire while on home care, or are admitted to a facility are excluded.

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Calculating the Measure

- Numerator
 - Patients discharged with a lower MO780 score than at SOC/ROC (less impaired at discharge)
- Denominator
 - Patients who scored 1 or greater at SOC/ROC (have potential to improve)

$$\text{Rate (Percentage)} = \text{Numerator} \div \text{Denominator} \times 100$$

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Helpful Tips

- MO780 refers to ABILITY, not compliance or willingness.
- ABILITY includes safely taking medications and reliably taking them at the appropriate times/intervals.

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Educate

Educate clinicians to assess patients for:

- Manual dexterity.
- Visual acuity.
- Cognitive ability.

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Strategy 1 Patient Assessment

- Set standards and expectations to assure the use of consistent assessment methods.
- Monitor progress toward improvement and share that information with clinicians.

(Time for worksheet exercise and discussion)

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Strategy 2 Patient Adherence

- Identify reasons for nonadherence and refer to other disciplines to assist the patient.
- Educate therapists to evaluate oral medication adherence.
- Simplify the patient's medications.

(Time for worksheet exercise and discussion)

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Final Thoughts

- Have a plan—your Plan of Action (POA).
- Monitor clinician compliance with your POA.
- Monitor progress in real time and share that information with staff members.
- Evaluate the effectiveness of the POA and be prepared to revise it.

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Oral Medications Workbook

Visit MedQIC (<http://www.medqic.org>)

- Home Health Section
 - Oral Medications
 - Tools
 - Oral Medications Workbook (Clinical Education)

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*All Medicare beneficiaries **have the right to appeal their discharge** from a hospital, skilled nursing facility, home health agency, or comprehensive outpatient rehabilitation facility.*

*For more information, go to <http://www.hsag.com/azmedicare> or call **1.800.359.9909**.*

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