

2018 Clinical quality corner



One in a series of tip sheets that look at key Healthcare Effectiveness Data and Information Set measures, commonly referred to as HEDIS® measures.

This measure applies to both commercial and Medicare members.

Medical assistance with smoking and tobacco use cessation

This measure, assessed annually through member experience surveys, looks at cessation efforts provided to members age 18 and older who are current smokers or tobacco users. Members are asked if they:

- Received cessation advice during the last year
- Discussed or were recommended cessation medications during the past year
- Discussed or were provided cessation methods or strategies during the last year

Improving HEDIS scores

- Consider making it part of your office policy to ask each patient about their tobacco use status
- Urge every tobacco user to quit. Help them set an ideal quit date. Suggest that they remove tobacco products from their environment and get support from family and friends. Review past efforts to quit and discuss what led to their relapse.
- Take a personalized approach to counseling them. Recommend the use of approved pharmacotherapy, if appropriate.
- Provide supplementary materials on tobacco cessation or free coaching services. For example, let them know they can log into their account at bcbsm.com for information and services

Did you know?

- In the U.S., more people die from lung cancer than any other type of cancer. In 2014, 215,951 people were diagnosed with lung cancer and 155,526 people died from lung cancer.
- More than 23 percent of adult Michigan residents report themselves as smokers.
- Tobacco contains more than 7,000 chemicals and chemical compounds.

HEDIS®, which stands for Healthcare Effectiveness Data and Information Set, is a registered trademark of the National Committee for Quality Assurance, or NCQA.

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