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One in a series of tip sheets about HEDIS® and other measures that contribute to star ratings of Medicare Advantage plans.

# Statin use in persons with diabetes (SUPD)

Pharmacy Quality Alliance-endorsed performance measures

## Measurement definition

Diabetic patients ages 40–75 who received a statin medication fill.

## Exclusions

Patients are excluded if they:

- Are in hospice care.
- Have an end stage renal disease diagnosis.
- Are deceased during measurement year.

## Information that patient medical records should include

The statin prescribed and the date it was prescribed.

## Tips for success

- Prescribe at least one statin medication during the measurement year to patients diagnosed with diabetes. Medication samples, when given, could interfere with pharmacy claims and produce false nonadherence results.
- This measure overlaps with the Statin Therapy for Patients with Cardiovascular Disease measure. Patients with ASCVD should be prescribed a moderate-intensity or high-intensity statin.
- This measure overlaps with the Medication Adherence for Cholesterol (Statins) measure. Educate patients on the importance of taking their medications regularly and as prescribed. Once patients demonstrate they tolerate statin therapy, encourage them to obtain 90-day supplies at their pharmacy.

## Tips for talking with patients

- Educate patients on the importance of statin medications for diabetic patients over the age of 40, regardless of LDL levels.
- Remind patients to contact you if they think they are experiencing adverse effects, such as myalgia, to statins. Consider trying a different statin that is more hydrophilic or reducing the dose or frequency.

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Pharmacy Quality Alliance. <https://www.pqaalliance.org/medicare-part-d>\*

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