



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

Plan All-cause Readmissions (PCR)

Risk-Adjusted Utilization HEDIS® measure

Measurement definition

The number of acute inpatient and observation stays for patients ages 18 and older that were followed by an unplanned acute readmission for any diagnosis within 30 days.

Exclusions

Patients are excluded if they received hospice care during the measurement year.

Tips for success

- Keep open appointments so patients who are discharged from the hospital can be seen within seven days of their discharge.
- When scheduling the post-discharge visit, ask patients to bring in all of their prescription medications and over-the-counter medications and supplements.
- Obtain and review patients' discharge summary.
- Obtain any test results that were not available when patients were discharged and track tests that are still pending.
- Connect with your state's automated electronic admission, discharge and transfer, or ADT, system to receive discharge data.
- If patients have not scheduled their discharge follow-up appointment, reach out and schedule an appointment within seven days of discharge or sooner as needed.
- Consider implementing:
 - A post-discharge process to track, monitor and follow up with patients.
 - Transitional care management for patients who are at high-risk for readmissions.

Tips for talking with patients

- Discuss the discharge summary with patients and ask if they understand the instructions and filled the new prescriptions.
- Complete a thorough medication reconciliation and ask patients and caregivers to describe their new medication regimen back to you. Document the reconciliation in the patients' medical record and submit a claim with CPT® II code 1111F (discharge medications reconciled with the current medication list in the outpatient medical record).
- Develop an action plan for chronic conditions, such as asthma and congestive heart failure. The plan should include what symptoms would trigger the patient to:
 - Start as-needed, or PRN, medications.

- Call you (during and after office hours).
- Go to the emergency room.
- Have patients and caregivers repeat the care plan back to you to demonstrate understanding.
- Ask about barriers or issues that might have contributed to patients' hospitalization and discuss how to prevent them in the future.
- Ask patients if they completed or scheduled prescribed outpatient work-ups or other services. This could include physical therapy, home health care visits and obtaining durable medical equipment.

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