

Statin Therapy for Patients with Diabetes

Neighborhood News – July 2025

For individuals with diabetes, managing cholesterol is essential due to their increased risk of atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease (ASCVD), a leading cause of health complications in this population. Effective cholesterol control through statin therapy can significantly reduce both morbidity and mortality associated with diabetes.

HEDIS® Performance Metrics

- **Statin Therapy for Patients with Diabetes (Ages 40-75 without ASCVD)**
 - In Measurement Year (MY) 2024, **69.02%** of Medicaid members in this group were prescribed on at least one statin medication, a decrease from 70.03% in MY 2023.
- **Statin Adherence 80% for Patients with Diabetes**
 - This measure tracks the percentage of members who maintained statin therapy for at least 80% of the treatment period. In MY 2024, adherence improved to **71.85%**, up from **67.61%** in MY 2023

Strategies to Improve Statin Therapy Adherence

- **Promote Consistent Medication Use:** Educate patients about the importance of taking their medications regularly to manage cholesterol levels effectively.
- **Manage Side Effects:** If patients report adverse reactions or side effects, consider switching to a different statin that may be better tolerated.
- **Encourage Regular Follow-ups:** Remind patients to attend scheduled visits with their primary care providers to monitor their health and adjust treatment plans as needed.

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