Care for Older Adults: Medication Review (COA)

Who: Percentage of adult patients 66 years of age or older as of December 31 of the measurement year.

Why: Older adults are at risk for adverse drug events due to multiple medications and complex medication regimens. Medication review helps increase communication between patient and prescriber to minimize medication duplication and complexity, resolve discrepancies, and increase patient adherence.

What: A review of all a patient’s medications during the measurement year.

How: This measure can be satisfied using CPT/HCPCS codes or through medical record review during HEDIS review. Both the medication list and the review must be in the encounter to be compliant. At least one medication review in the measurement year conducted by a prescribing practitioner or clinical pharmacist, with the reviewed medication list signed and dated in the medical record during a visit or transitional care-management services. If submitting a claim, the CPT/HCPCS codes for the medication review and med list must be on the same claim.

Exclusions: Patients in hospice or using hospice services during the measurement year. Services provided in an acute inpatient setting are excluded.

Coding: CPT/HCPCS: 90863, 99605, 99606, 99495, 99496, G8427 CPT-CAT-II: 1160F, 1159F
Care for Older Adults: Medication Review (COA) FAQs

Q: Are over-the-counter medications and herbal supplemental therapies included in the medication review?

A: Yes.

Q: Does notation of a review of side effects for a single medication at the time of prescription count?

A: No. A medication review includes all prescription medications, OTC medications and herbal or supplemental therapies.

Q: Is an outpatient visit required to meet criteria?

A: No. A clinical pharmacist or provider can review medications with a patient via a phone conversation. The reviewed medication list signed by the clinical pharmacist or provider is evidence that the medications were reviewed.

Q: If the patient is not taking any medications or herbal supplements is a notation still required?

A: Yes. Notation that the patient is not taking any medication and the date when it was noted are needed to count.

Q: Does it count if a CMA reviews the medication list at the beginning of the encounter?

A: Yes, if the medication list is in the encounter and the provider or clinical pharmacist states that the medications were reviewed.