

# Statin Therapy for Patients with Cardiovascular Disease (SPC)



# Overview

This measure is about patients that fall in three different categories:

- Patients who were previously diagnosed with or currently have an active diagnosis of Clinical Atherosclerotic Cardiovascular Disease or ASCVD
- Patients who have ever had a low-density lipoprotein cholesterol of LDL-C level  $\geq 90$  mg/dl or were previously diagnosed with active diagnosis of high cholesterol
- Patients who currently have a family member with active diagnosis of high cholesterol

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## WHY IS IT IMPORTANT

- To ensure that patients with high LDL-C levels are prescribed with statin therapy because one study surveying U.S. cardiology, primary care, and endocrinology practices found that 1 in 4 guideline-eligible patients were not on a statin and less than half were on the recommended statin intensity. Untreated and undertreated patients had significantly higher LDL-C levels than those receiving guideline-directed statin treatment
  - It is recommended that patients that are eligible for SPC measure are prescribed with statin therapy because these patients are at risk for heart disease which is the leading cause of death for men and women and about 1 in 5 heart attacks are silent
  - Statin therapy is recommended for patients with history of ASCVD, elevated cholesterol or family history because they are considered high risk for heart attack and statin therapy has been associated to reduce risk of CVD
  - Numerous randomized trials have demonstrated that treatment with a statin reduces LDL-C and reduces the risk of major cardiovascular events by approximately 20 percent

# Understanding the Measure

## Statin Therapy for Patients with Cardiovascular Disease

<b>High-Intensity Statin Therapy</b>	Atorvastatin 40-80 mg Amlodipine-atorvastatin 40-80 mg Rosuvastatin 20-40 mg Simvastatin 80 mg Ezetimibe-simvastatin 80 mg
<b>Moderate-Intensity Statin Therapy</b>	Atorvastatin 10-20 mg Amlodipine-atorvastatin 10-20 mg Rosuvastatin 5-10 mg Simvastatin 20-40 mg Ezetimibe-simvastatin 20-40 mg Pravastatin 40-80 mg Lovastatin 40 mg Fluvastatin 40-80 mg Pitavastatin 1-4 mg

- How is someone identified for the measure:
  - All patients who were previously diagnosed with or currently have an active diagnosis of clinical atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease (ASCVD), including an ASCVD procedure
  - Patients aged  $\geq 20$  years who have ever had a low-density lipoprotein cholesterol (LDL-C) level  $\geq 190$  mg/dL or were previously diagnosed with or currently have an active diagnosis of familial hypercholesterolemia
- How is it measured:
  - Patients who had at least one prescription fill for a high-intensity or moderate-intensity statin medication during the current year

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## TALKING POINTS WITH PROVIDER GROUPS

- Remind provider groups that SPC measure only requires one order of statin therapy
- Give provider groups a list of members that are eligible for this measure from quality care gaps report or RxEffect portal
- Share with provider groups that there are patients that can be excluded from SPC measure

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## PROVIDER GROUP'S KEYS TO SUCCESS

- Document statin therapy in the patient's current medication list during the current year
- Does not have to be linked to an encounter or visit – it may be called to the pharmacy
- Only statin therapy meets the measure numerator criteria (NOT other cholesterol lowering medications)
- Documentation in the medical record that member was given samples of a statin medication with date and number of pills dispensed
- A note in the PCP chart that indicates that the member has purchased their medications through an internet site and includes the date they started taking the medication along with the number dispensed

# Resources

- [HEDIS Quick Reference Guide \(page 25\)](#)
- [SPC Flyer](#)

