



NETWORK *Notification*

Notice Date: September 14, 2020
To: Kentucky Marketplace Providers
From: CareSource
Subject: Behavioral Health HEDIS IET Telehealth Measure Update

Summary

At CareSource, we remain committed to identifying and engaging members for alcohol and other drug (AOD) disorder treatment. In following National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA) updates to HEDIS®, CareSource can effectively monitor the quality of care delivered by the health plan provider network.

The 2020 Behavioral Health HEDIS® Initiation and Engagement of Alcohol and Other Drug Dependence Treatment (IET) measure addresses the percentage of adolescent and adult members with a new episode of an AOD disorder who receive the following:

- **Initiation of AOD disorder treatment** – the percentage of members who initiate through an inpatient AOD disorder admission, outpatient visit, intensive outpatient encounter, or partial hospitalization, telehealth or medication assisted treatment (MAT) **within 14 days** of the diagnosis.
- **Engagement of AOD disorder treatment** – the percentage of members who initiated treatment and who had two or more additional AOD disorder services or MAT **within 34 days of the initiation visit**.

Members for the IET measure are identified solely through claims coming from any provider type. It is important that providers identify and code all AOD disorder diagnoses.

Impact

What can you do?

You can determine an AOD disorder diagnosis using the standard screening tool, screening for both alcohol and drug use. Please visit our [SBIRT Provider Orientation](#) to learn more about this evidence-based intervention and related screeners shown to be effective for screening, providing brief interventions, and referral to treatment (SBIRT). You may also be eligible to bill for the SBIRT service in addition to the reason for your visit.

When a patient has an AOD disorder diagnosis, consider immediate referral to the behavioral health provider to start treatment **within 14 days of diagnosis**. If there are additional barriers that may impact accessing care, please contact CareSource Member Services at **1-888-815-6446** (TTY: 1-800-648-6056). To ensure the visit counts for the measure, notify the referring provider of the appropriate AOD disorder diagnosis code to be used for all follow-up member visits.

If you choose *not* to refer the patient to a behavioral health provider, you will need to schedule a visit at your office **within 14 days of the AOD disorder diagnosis date** to initiate AOD disorder treatment for the member.

- During the appointment have a supportive discussion and provide education and counseling to adolescents and their parents, pregnant women, and all adult members on the risks and health outcomes.
- Before the member leaves the appointment, schedule at least two additional follow-up visits for the patient, at your practice, **within 30 days of the initiation of treatment visit**.

Telehealth Options

In the most recent preliminary updates to HEDIS® measure specifications and in keeping with changing needs around access to health services, coding associated with telehealth visits can now satisfy the IET measure when combined with appropriate documentation. The table below includes the qualifying codes.

Value Set	CPT Code	Code Description
Telephone Visit	98966-98968	Telephone assessment and management service provided by a qualified non-physician health care professional to an established patient, parent, or guardian not originating from a related assessment and management service provided within the previous 7 days nor leading to an assessment and management service or procedure within the next 24 hours or soonest available appointment
	99441-99443	Telephone evaluation and management service provided by a physician to an established patient, parent, or guardian not originating from a related E/M service provided within the previous 7 days nor leading to an E/M service or procedure within the next 24 hours or soonest available appointment

Other Screening Resources

The following are evidence-based screening tools that can be used to identify AOD disorder:

- National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) Drug Use Screening Tool
- Alcohol Use Disorders Identification Test (AUDIT)
- Drug Screen Abuse Test (DAST-10)
- The Alcohol, Smoking, and Substance Involvement Screening Test (ASSIST)

CareSource providers have the choice as to which validated screening tool to use in identifying alcohol or another drug misuse. Information regarding CareSource behavioral health benefits, tools and services are located on the [Behavioral Health page](#) of our website.

Questions?

If you have any questions about this HEDIS® measure, please contact Provider Services at:

- Kentucky: **1-800-855-5558** (Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Eastern Standard Time)
- West Virginia: **1-855-202-1091** (Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Eastern Standard Time)

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