

MEASURE IET-AD: INITIATION AND ENGAGEMENT OF ALCOHOL AND OTHER DRUG ABUSE OR DEPENDENCE TREATMENT

National Committee for Quality Assurance

A. DESCRIPTION

Percentage of beneficiaries age 18 and older with a new episode of alcohol or other drug (AOD) abuse or dependence who received the following:

- **Initiation of AOD Treatment.** Percentage of beneficiaries who initiate treatment through an inpatient AOD admission, outpatient visit, intensive outpatient encounter or partial hospitalization, telehealth, or medication treatment within 14 days of the diagnosis
- **Engagement of AOD Treatment.** Percentage of beneficiaries who initiated treatment and who were engaged in ongoing AOD treatment within 34 days of the initiation visit

Data Collection Method: Administrative or EHR

Guidance for Reporting:

- This measure has two reportable age groups (ages 13 to 17 and age 18 and older). For the purpose of Adult Core Set reporting, this measure should be calculated for beneficiaries age 18 and older. States should calculate and report each of the rates listed above for two age groups (as applicable): ages 18 to 64 and age 65 and older.
- Two rates are reported: initiation of AOD treatment and engagement of AOD treatment. For each rate, report the following AOD diagnosis cohorts for each age group:
 - Alcohol abuse or dependence
 - Opioid abuse or dependence
 - Other drug abuse or dependence
 - Total AOD abuse or dependence
- The total AOD abuse or dependence rate is not a sum of the diagnosis cohorts. Count beneficiaries in the total denominator rate if they had at least one alcohol, opioid, or other drug abuse or dependence diagnosis during the measurement period. Report beneficiaries with multiple diagnoses on the Index Episode claim only once for the total rate for the denominator.
- Exclude beneficiaries from the denominator for both rates (initiation of AOD treatment and engagement of AOD treatment) if the initiation of treatment event is an inpatient stay with a discharge date after November 27 of the measurement year.
- Include all paid, suspended, pending, and denied claims.
- Beneficiaries in hospice are excluded from the eligible population. For additional information, refer to the hospice exclusion guidance in Section II. Data Collection and Reporting of the Adult Core Set.
- This measure requires that medication assisted treatment (MAT) services match the diagnosis category of the index episode identified in the denominator in order to count towards the numerator of the engagement rate. Depending on the diagnosis used in the denominator (i.e., opioid abuse or dependence and alcohol abuse and dependence), a corresponding MAT medication should be used to satisfy the numerator.

- NCQA’s Medication List Directory (MLD) for Alcohol Use Disorder Treatment Medications and Opioid Use Disorder Treatment Medications is available to order free of charge in the NCQA Store (<http://store.ncqa.org/index.php/catalog/product/view/id/3763/s/hedis-my-2020-medication-list-directory/>). Once ordered, the Medication List Directory can be accessed through the NCQA Download Center (<https://my.ncqa.org/Downloads>).
- The electronic specification for FFY 2021 is located on the eCQI resource center at <https://ecqi.healthit.gov/ecqm/ep/2020/cms137v8>.

The following coding systems are used in this measure: CPT, HCPCS, ICD-10-CM, ICD-10-PCS, POS, SNOMED, and UB. Refer to the Acknowledgments section at the beginning of the manual for copyright information.

B. DEFINITIONS

Intake period	January 1 to November 14 of the measurement year. The Intake Period is used to capture new episodes of AOD abuse and dependence.
Index episode	The earliest eligible encounter during the Intake Period with a diagnosis of AOD abuse or dependence. For ED or observation visits that result in an inpatient stay, the inpatient discharge is the Index Episode.
Dates of service for services billed weekly or monthly	For an opioid treatment service that bills monthly or weekly (<u>ODU Weekly Non Drug Service Value Set</u> ; <u>ODU Monthly Office Based Treatment Value Set</u> ; <u>ODU Weekly Drug Treatment Service Value Set</u>), if the service includes a range of dates, then use the earliest date as the date of service. Use this date for all relevant events (the IESD, negative diagnosis history and numerator events).
IESD	Index Episode Start Date (IESD). The earliest date of service for an eligible encounter during the Intake Period with a diagnosis of AOD abuse or dependence. For an outpatient, intensive outpatient, partial hospitalization, observation, telehealth, detoxification, or ED visit (not resulting in an inpatient stay), the IESD is the date of service. For an inpatient stay or for detoxification that occurred during an inpatient stay, the IESD is the date of discharge. For detoxification (other than detoxification that occurred during an inpatient stay), the IESD is the date of service. For ED and observation visits that result in an inpatient stay, the IESD is the date of the inpatient discharge (an AOD diagnosis is not required for the inpatient stay; use the diagnosis from the ED or observation visit to determine the diagnosis cohort). For direct transfers, the IESD is the discharge date from the last admission (an AOD diagnosis is not required for the transfer; use the diagnosis from the initial admission to determine the diagnosis cohort).

<p>Negative diagnosis history</p>	<p>A period of 60 days (2 months) before the IESD when the beneficiary had no claims/encounters with a diagnosis of AOD abuse or dependence.</p> <p>For an inpatient stay, use the admission date to determine the Negative Diagnosis History.</p> <p>For ED or observation visits that result in an inpatient stay, use the earliest date of service (either the ED/observation date of service or the inpatient admission date) to determine the Negative Diagnosis History.</p> <p>For direct transfers, use the first admission to determine the Negative Diagnosis History.</p>
<p>Direct transfer</p>	<p>A direct transfer is when the discharge date from the first inpatient setting precedes the admission date to a second inpatient setting by one calendar day or less. For example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An inpatient discharge on June 1, followed by an admission to another inpatient setting on June 1, is a direct transfer. • An inpatient discharge on June 1, followed by an admission to an inpatient setting on June 2, is a direct transfer. • An inpatient discharge on June 1, followed by an admission to another inpatient setting on June 3, is not a direct transfer; these are two distinct inpatient stays. <p>Use the following method to identify admissions to and discharges from inpatient settings.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Identify all acute and nonacute inpatient stays (<u>Inpatient Stay Value Set</u>). 2. Identify the admission and discharge dates for the stay.

C. ELIGIBLE POPULATION

<p>Age</p>	<p>Age 18 and older as of December 31 of the measurement year.</p>
<p>AOD diagnosis cohorts</p>	<p>Report the following diagnosis cohorts for each age stratification:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alcohol abuse or dependence • Opioid abuse or dependence • Other drug abuse or dependence • Total AOD abuse or dependence
<p>Continuous enrollment</p>	<p>60 days (2 months) prior to the IESD through 47 days after the IESD (108 total days).</p>
<p>Allowable gap</p>	<p>No allowable gaps in the continuous enrollment period.</p>
<p>Anchor date</p>	<p>None.</p>
<p>Benefits</p>	<p>Medical, pharmacy, and chemical dependency (inpatient and outpatient).</p> <p>Note: Beneficiaries with detoxification-only chemical dependency benefits do not meet these criteria.</p>

<p>Event/ diagnosis</p>	<p>New episode of AOD abuse or dependence during the Intake Period. Follow the steps below to identify the eligible population, which is the denominator for both rates.</p> <p>Step 1</p> <p>Identify the Index Episode. Identify all beneficiaries in the specified age range who during the Intake Period had one of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An outpatient visit, telehealth, intensive outpatient visit, or partial hospitalization with a diagnosis of AOD abuse or dependence. Any of the following code combinations meet criteria: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <u>IET Stand Alone Visits Value Set</u> with one of the following: <u>Alcohol Abuse and Dependence Value Set</u>, <u>Opioid Abuse and Dependence Value Set</u>, <u>Other Drug Abuse and Dependence Value Set</u> - <u>IET Visits Group 1 Value Set</u> with <u>IET POS Group 1 Value Set</u> and with one of the following: <u>Alcohol Abuse and Dependence Value Set</u>, <u>Opioid Abuse and Dependence Value Set</u>, <u>Other Drug Abuse and Dependence Value Set</u> - <u>IET Visits Group 2 Value Set</u> with <u>IET POS Group 2 Value Set</u> and with one of the following: <u>Alcohol Abuse and Dependence Value Set</u>, <u>Opioid Abuse and Dependence Value Set</u>, <u>Other Drug Abuse and Dependence Value Set</u> - <u>OUD Weekly Non Drug Service Value Set</u> with <u>Opioid Abuse and Dependence Value Set</u> - <u>OUD Monthly Office Based Treatment Value Set</u> with <u>Opioid Abuse and Dependence Value Set</u> - <u>OUD Weekly Drug Treatment Service Value Set</u> with <u>Opioid Abuse and Dependence Value Set</u> • A detoxification visit (<u>Detoxification Value Set</u>) with one of the following: <u>Alcohol Abuse and Dependence Value Set</u>, <u>Opioid Abuse and Dependence Value Set</u>, <u>Other Drug Abuse and Dependence Value Set</u> • An ED visit (<u>ED Value Set</u>) with one of the following: <u>Alcohol Abuse and Dependence Value Set</u>, <u>Opioid Abuse and Dependence Value Set</u>, <u>Other Drug Abuse and Dependence Value Set</u> • An observation visit (<u>Observation Value Set</u>) with one of the following: <u>Alcohol Abuse and Dependence Value Set</u>, <u>Opioid Abuse and Dependence Value Set</u>, <u>Other Drug Abuse and Dependence Value Set</u> • An acute or nonacute inpatient discharge with one of the following on the discharge claim: <u>Alcohol Abuse and Dependence Value Set</u>, <u>Opioid Abuse and Dependence Value Set</u>, <u>Other Drug Abuse and Dependence Value Set</u>. To identify acute and nonacute inpatient discharges: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Identify all acute and nonacute inpatient stays (<u>Inpatient Stay Value Set</u>). 2. Identify the discharge date for the stay.
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<p>Event/ diagnosis (continued)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A telephone visit (<u>Telephone Visits Value Set</u>) with one of the following: <u>Alcohol Abuse and Dependence Value Set</u>, <u>Opioid Abuse and Dependence Value Set</u>, <u>Other Drug Abuse and Dependence Value Set</u> • An e-visit or virtual check-in (<u>Online Assessments Value Set</u>) with one of the following: <u>Alcohol Abuse and Dependence Value Set</u>, <u>Opioid Abuse and Dependence Value Set</u>, <u>Other Drug Abuse and Dependence Value Set</u> • An opioid treatment service (<u>OUD Weekly Non Drug Service Value Set</u>; <u>OUD Monthly Office Based Treatment Value Set</u>; <u>OUD Weekly Drug Treatment Service Value Set</u>) with a diagnosis of opioid abuse or dependence (<u>Opioid Abuse and Dependence Value Set</u>) <p>For beneficiaries with more than one episode of AOD abuse or dependence, use the first episode.</p> <p>For beneficiaries whose first episode was an ED or observation visit that resulted in an inpatient stay, use the diagnosis from the ED or observation visit to determine the diagnosis cohort and use the inpatient discharge date as the IESD.</p> <p>Step 2</p> <p>Select the Index Episode and stratify based on age and AOD diagnosis cohort.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If the beneficiary has a diagnosis of alcohol abuse or dependence (<u>Alcohol Abuse and Dependence Value Set</u>), place the beneficiary in the alcohol cohort. • If the beneficiary has a diagnosis of opioid abuse or dependence (<u>Opioid Abuse and Dependence Value Set</u>), place the beneficiary in the opioid cohort. • If the beneficiary has a drug abuse or dependence that is neither for opioid or alcohol (<u>Other Drug Abuse and Dependence Value Set</u>), place the beneficiary in the other drug cohort. <p>If the beneficiary has multiple substance use diagnoses for the visit, report the beneficiary in all AOD diagnosis stratifications for which they meet criteria.</p> <p>The total is not a sum of the diagnosis cohorts. Count beneficiaries in the total denominator rate if they had at least one alcohol, opioid, or other drug abuse or dependence diagnosis during the measurement period. Report beneficiaries with multiple diagnoses on the Index Episode only once for the total rate for the denominator.</p> <p>Step 3</p> <p>Test for Negative Diagnosis History. Exclude beneficiaries who had a claim/encounter with a diagnosis of AOD abuse or dependence (<u>AOD Abuse and Dependence Value Set</u>), AOD medication treatment (<u>AOD Medication Treatment Value Set</u>), or an alcohol or opioid dependency treatment medication dispensing event (Alcohol Use Disorder Treatment Medications List; Opioid Use Disorder Treatment Medications List, see link to the Medication List Directory in Guidance for Reporting above) during the 60 days (2 months) before the IESD.</p> <p>For an inpatient IESD, use the admission date to determine the 60-day Negative Diagnosis History period.</p>
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Event/ diagnosis (continued)	For ED or observation visits that result in an inpatient stay, use the earliest date of service (either the ED/observation date of service or the inpatient admission date) to determine the Negative Diagnosis History. Step 4 Calculate continuous enrollment. Beneficiaries must be continuously enrolled for 60 days (2 months) before the IESD through 47 days after the IESD (108 total days), with no gaps.
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D. ADMINISTRATIVE SPECIFICATION

Denominator

The eligible population as defined above.

Numerators

Numerator 1: Initiation of AOD Treatment

Initiation of AOD treatment within 14 days of the IESD.

If the Index Episode was an inpatient discharge (or an ED/observation visit that resulted in an inpatient stay), the inpatient stay is considered initiation of treatment and the beneficiary is compliant.

If the Index Episode was an opioid treatment service that bills monthly (ODU Monthly Office Based Treatment Value Set), the opioid treatment service is considered initiation of treatment and the beneficiary is compliant.

If the Index Episode was not an inpatient discharge, the beneficiary must initiate the treatment on the start date of the Index Episode or in the 13 days after the Index Episode (14 total days). Any of the following code combinations meet criteria for initiation:

- An acute or nonacute inpatient admission with a diagnosis (on the discharge claim) matching the IESD diagnosis cohort using one of the following: Alcohol Abuse and Dependence Value Set, Opioid Abuse and Dependence Value Set, Other Drug Abuse and Dependence Value Set. To identify acute and nonacute inpatient admissions:
 1. Identify all acute and nonacute inpatient stays (Inpatient Stay Value Set).
 2. Identify the admission date for the stay.
- IET Stand Alone Visits Value Set with a diagnosis matching the IESD diagnosis cohort using one of the following: Alcohol Abuse and Dependence Value Set, Opioid Abuse and Dependence Value Set, Other Drug Abuse and Dependence Value Set
- Observation Value Set with a diagnosis matching the IESD diagnosis cohort using one of the following: Alcohol Abuse and Dependence Value Set, Opioid Abuse and Dependence Value Set, Other Drug Abuse and Dependence Value Set
- IET Visits Group 1 Value Set with IET POS Group 1 Value Set and a diagnosis matching the IESD diagnosis cohort using one of the following: Alcohol Abuse and Dependence Value Set, Opioid Abuse and Dependence Value Set, Other Drug Abuse and Dependence Value Set
- IET Visits Group 2 Value Set with IET POS Group 2 Value Set and a diagnosis matching the IESD diagnosis cohort using one of the following: Alcohol Abuse and Dependence Value Set, Opioid Abuse and Dependence Value Set, Other Drug Abuse and Dependence Value Set
- A telephone visit (Telephone Visits Value Set) with a diagnosis matching the IESD diagnosis cohort using one of the following: Alcohol Abuse and Dependence Value Set,

Opioid Abuse and Dependence Value Set, Other Drug Abuse and Dependence Value Set

- An e-visit or virtual check-in (Online Assessments Value Set) with a diagnosis matching the IESD diagnosis cohort using one of the following: Alcohol Abuse and Dependence Value Set, Opioid Abuse and Dependence Value Set, Other Drug Abuse and Dependence Value Set
- If the Index Episode was for a diagnosis of opioid abuse or dependence (Opioid Abuse and Dependence Value Set) an opioid treatment service (OUD Weekly Non Drug Service Value Set)
- If the Index Episode was for a diagnosis of opioid abuse or dependence (Opioid Abuse and Dependence Value Set) an opioid treatment service (OUD Monthly Office Based Treatment Value Set)
- If the Index Episode was for a diagnosis of alcohol abuse or dependence (Alcohol Abuse and Dependence Value Set) a medication treatment dispensing event (Alcohol Use Disorder Treatment Medications List, see link to the Medication List Directory in Guidance for Reporting above) or medication treatment during a visit (AOD Medication Treatment Value Set)
- If the Index Episode was for a diagnosis of opioid abuse or dependence (Opioid Abuse and Dependence Value Set) a medication treatment dispensing event (Opioid Use Disorder Treatment Medications List, see link to the Medication List Directory in Guidance for Reporting above) or medication treatment during a visit (AOD Medication Treatment Value Set; OUD Weekly Drug Treatment Service Value Set)

For all initiation events except medication treatment (AOD Medication Treatment Value Set; Alcohol Use Disorder Treatment Medications List; Opioid Use Disorder Treatment Medications List, see link to the Medication List Directory in Guidance for Reporting above), initiation on the same day as the IESD must be with different providers in order to count.

If a beneficiary is compliant for the Initiation numerator for any diagnosis cohort (alcohol, opioid, other drug), or for multiple cohorts, count the beneficiary only once in the Total Initiation numerator. The “Total” column is not the sum of the diagnosis columns.

Exclude the beneficiary from the denominator for both indicators (Initiation of AOD Treatment and Engagement of AOD Treatment) if the initiation of treatment event is an inpatient stay with a discharge date after November 27 of the measurement year.

Numerator 2: Engagement of AOD Treatment

Step 1

Identify all beneficiaries compliant for the Initiation of AOD Treatment numerator.

For beneficiaries who initiated treatment via an inpatient admission, the 34-day period for engagement begins the day after discharge.

Step 2

Identify beneficiaries who had an opioid treatment service that bills monthly (OUD Monthly Office Based Treatment Value Set) or who had a visit that included medication administration (OUD Weekly Drug Treatment Service Value Set) beginning on the day after the initiation encounter through 34 days after the initiation event.

For these beneficiaries, if the IESD Diagnosis cohort was a diagnosis of opioid abuse or dependence (Opioid Abuse and Dependence Value Set), the beneficiary is numerator compliant for Engagement of AOD Treatment.

Step 3

Identify beneficiaries whose initiation of AOD treatment was a medication treatment event (Alcohol Use Disorder Treatment Medications List; Opioid Use Disorder Treatment Medications List; AOD Medication Treatment Value Set, see link to the Medication List Directory in Guidance for Reporting above).

These beneficiaries are numerator compliant if they have two or more engagement events where only one can be an engagement medication treatment event, beginning on the day after the initiation encounter through 34 days after the initiation event (total of 34 days).

Step 4

Identify the remaining beneficiaries whose initiation of AOD treatment was not a medication treatment event (beneficiaries not identified in step 3).

These beneficiaries are numerator compliant if they meet either of the following:

- At least one engagement medication treatment event
- At least two engagement visits

Two engagement visits can be on the same date of service but they must be with different providers in order to count as two events. An engagement visit on the same date of service as an engagement medication treatment event meets criteria (there is no requirement that they be with different providers).

Refer to the descriptions below to identify engagement visits and engagement medication treatment events.

Engagement Visits

Any of the following beginning on the day after the initiation encounter through 34 days after the initiation event (total of 34 days) meet criteria for an engagement visit:

- An acute or nonacute inpatient admission with a diagnosis (on the discharge claim) matching the IESD diagnosis cohort using one of the following: Alcohol Abuse and Dependence Value Set, Opioid Abuse and Dependence Value Set, Other Drug Abuse and Dependence Value Set. To identify acute or nonacute inpatient admissions:
 1. Identify all acute and nonacute inpatient stays (Inpatient Stay Value Set).
 2. Identify the admission date for the stay.
- IET Stand Alone Visits Value Set with a diagnosis matching the IESD diagnosis cohort using one of the following: Alcohol Abuse and Dependence Value Set, Opioid Abuse and Dependence Value Set, Other Drug Abuse and Dependence Value Set
- Observation Value Set with a diagnosis matching the IESD diagnosis cohort using one of the following: Alcohol Abuse and Dependence Value Set, Opioid Abuse and Dependence Value Set, Other Drug Abuse and Dependence Value Set
- IET Visits Group 1 Value Set with IET POS Group 1 Value Set with a diagnosis matching the IESD diagnosis cohort using one of the following: Alcohol Abuse and Dependence Value Set, Opioid Abuse and Dependence Value Set, Other Drug Abuse and Dependence Value Set
- IET Visits Group 2 Value Set with IET POS Group 2 Value Set with a diagnosis matching the IESD diagnosis cohort using one of the following: Alcohol Abuse and Dependence Value Set, Opioid Abuse and Dependence Value Set, Other Drug Abuse and Dependence Value Set
- A telephone visit (Telephone Visits Value Set) with a diagnosis matching the IESD diagnosis cohort using one of the following: Alcohol Abuse and Dependence Value Set,

Opioid Abuse and Dependence Value Set, Other Drug Abuse and Dependence Value Set

- An e-visit or virtual check-in (Online Assessments Value Set) with a diagnosis matching the IESD diagnosis cohort using one of the following: Alcohol Abuse and Dependence Value Set, Opioid Abuse and Dependence Value Set, Other Drug Abuse and Dependence Value Set
- If the IESD Diagnosis cohort was a diagnosis of opioid abuse or dependence (Opioid Abuse and Dependence Value Set) an opioid treatment service (OUD Weekly Non Drug Service Value Set)

Engagement Medication Treatment Events

Either of the following meets criteria for an engagement medication treatment event:

- If the IESD diagnosis was a diagnosis of alcohol abuse or dependence (Alcohol Abuse and Dependence Value Set), one or more medication treatment dispensing events (Alcohol Use Disorder Treatment Medications List, see link to the Medication List Directory in Guidance for Reporting above) or medication treatment during a visit (AOD Medication Treatment Value Set), beginning on the day after the initiation encounter through 34 days after the initiation event (total of 34 days), meets criteria for Alcohol Abuse and Dependence Treatment.
- If the IESD diagnosis was a diagnosis of opioid abuse or dependence (Opioid Abuse and Dependence Value Set), one or more medication dispensing events (Opioid Use Disorder Treatment Medications List, see link to the Medication List Directory in Guidance for Reporting above) or medication treatment during a visit (AOD Medication Treatment Value Set), beginning on the day after the initiation encounter through 34 days after the initiation event (total of 34 days), meets criteria for Opioid Abuse and Dependence Treatment.

If the beneficiary is compliant for multiple cohorts, only count the beneficiary once for the Total Engagement numerator. The Total rate is not the sum of the diagnosis columns.

E. ADDITIONAL NOTES

- There may be different methods for billing intensive outpatient encounters and partial hospitalizations. Some methods may be comparable to outpatient billing, with separate claims for each date of service; others may be comparable to inpatient billing, with an admission date, a discharge date, and units of service. Where billing methods are comparable to inpatient billing, each unit of service may be counted as an individual visit. The unit of service must have occurred during the required time frame for the rate.
- For beneficiaries in the “other drug abuse or dependence” cohort, medication treatment does not meet numerator criteria for Initiation of AOD Treatment or Engagement of AOD Treatment.
- Methadone is not included in the medication lists for this measure. Methadone for opioid use disorder is only administered or dispensed by federally certified opioid treatment programs and does not show up in pharmacy claims data. A pharmacy claim for methadone would be more indicative of treatment for pain than for an opioid use disorder; therefore, pharmacy claims for methadone are not included in the medication lists for this measure. The AOD Medication Treatment Value Set includes some codes that identify methadone treatment because these codes are used on medical claims, not pharmacy claims.