

WHA LB PIC Measure Sets

1. Use of Imaging Studies for Low Back Pain (LBP) HEDIS metric

The percentage of members with a primary diagnosis of low back pain who did not have an imaging study (plain X-ray, MRI, CT scan) within 28 days of the diagnosis.

Instructions: follow HEDIS LBP measure specifications. Age range is now 18 – 75.

| | |
|--------------------|---|
| Denominator | The eligible population |
| Numerator | An imaging study (<u>Imaging Study Value Set</u>) with a diagnosis of uncomplicated low back pain (<u>Uncomplicated Low Back Pain Value Set</u>) on the IESD or in the 28 days following the IESD |

Follow HEDIS specification to determine 2020 baseline and 2022 remeasurement. Ideally run the rate quarterly starting in 2021.

We recommend that participating plans and providers collect this information on a quarterly basis to inform quality improvement activities, if possible.

2. Patients prescribed any opioid: Bree Collaborative metric, modified to include only LBP patients and adults only

Percent of the population prescribed opioids

| | |
|--------------------|---|
| Denominator | Number of patients in the LBP population during the measurement period |
| Numerator | Number of adult patients in the LBP population with at least one opioid prescription during the measurement period (proposed: LBP population means patients with at least one coded outpatient visit for LBP) |

See LBP condition codes and NDC opioid codes in appendix

Exclusions: All patients with a cancer diagnosis or those who are on hospice, if possible; all prescriptions for buprenorphine; prescriptions for opioid not typically used in outpatient settings or when used as part of cough and cold formulations including elixirs, and combination products containing antitussives, decongestants, antihistamines, and expectorants * (This should be accounted for by the list of NDC codes from LNI).

3. Patient visits to ED for LBP

No pre-existing metric.

Proposal: #ED visits/1000 for LBP diagnosis Reporting: 2020 baseline and reported quarterly for 2021 and 2022.

Denominator All adults 18 and over presenting to the ED during the time period

Numerator Adults 18 and over presenting with LBP (see code list in appendix) to ED (see appendix) as initial visit in calendar year

LB PIC Metrics Appendix

1. **ED code set**

Point of service = 23 or CPT codes 98281-99288

2. [Low Back Pain/Sciatica Codes](#)

[Low Back Pain Coding Guidelines](#)

3. Opioid [National Drug Code Directory](#)