



Use of First-Line Psychosocial Care for Children and Adolescents on Antipsychotics (APP)

HEDIS® Measurement Year 2020 & 2021 Measures

Measure Description: The percentage of children and adolescents 1–17 years of age who had a new prescription for an antipsychotic medication and had documentation of psychosocial care as first-line treatment.

- Index Prescription Start Date (IPSD): The earliest prescription dispensing date for an antipsychotic medication between January 1 – December 1 of the measurement year.
- Psychosocial care must occur in the 121-day period from 90 days prior to the IPSD through 30 days after the IPSD (by December 31 of the measurement year) to count towards compliance.

Eligible Population

Members 1–17 years as of December 31 of the measurement year. Report two age stratifications and a total rate:

- 1–11 years
- 12–17 years
- Total

The Following Members Will Not Be Counted in the Measure Population

Members for whom first-line antipsychotic medications may be clinically appropriate. Any of the following during the measurement year meet criteria:

- Members in hospice
- Members who have antipsychotic medications dispensed for new or refill prescriptions in the 4 months prior to the IPSD
- Members with at least one acute inpatient encounter with a diagnosis of schizophrenia, schizoaffective disorder, bipolar disorder, other psychotic disorder, autism, or other developmental disorder during the measurement year

- Members with at least two visits in an outpatient, intensive outpatient or partial hospitalization setting, on different dates of service, with a diagnosis of schizophrenia, schizoaffective disorder, bipolar disorder, other psychotic disorder, autism, or other developmental disorder during the measurement year.

Strategies for Encouraging Engagement in Psychosocial Treatment

- Offer a safe, supportive, and culturally competent environment. Understanding the patient's culture and belief system can help distinguish what type of treatment that they are seeking.
- Medication regimen adherence is essential for the patient's treatment.
- Coordinate treatment with all parties involved.
- Build a partnership on trust and understanding with the patient and their family. Trust can be established by including the patient and their family in all decision making.
- Provide credible sources in order to address any fears and stigma surrounding treatment.

Quality Measure Toolkit

[AetnaBetterHealth.com/Pennsylvania](https://www.aetna.com/betterhealth/pennsylvania)

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- Recognize that the patient might want to participate at varying levels, so meet them where they are.
- Refer patients with alcohol and drug abuse dependence to Aetna Better Health’s Special Needs Unit for additional support.
 - Call the Special Needs Unit at **1-855-346-9828**.

Numerator Codes

There is a large list of approved NCQA codes used to identify the services included in the APP measure. **The following are just a few of the approved codes. For a complete list please refer to the NCQA website at [NCQA.org](https://www.ncqa.org).**

Code Class	Codes	Description
CPT	90832-90834; 90836-90840; 90845-90847; 90849; 90853; 90875-90876; 90880	Psychosocial Care