

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
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CENTER FOR MEDICARE

TO: Part D Plan Sponsors

FROM: Cynthia G. Tudor, Ph.D., Director, Medicare Drug Benefit and C & D Data Group

SUBJECT: New Medicare Part D Patient Safety Report – Antiretroviral Adherence

DATE: December 29, 2011

A new Antiretroviral (ARV) Adherence report will be launched during the December 2011 report update on the Patient Safety Analysis Website. Due to the holiday, the December report update will occur on January 4, 2012, instead of the last day of December. This new report will provide information to Part D sponsors on monitoring enrollees' adherence to antiretroviral medications for the treatment of HIV/AIDS, which is important for the sustained effectiveness of these medications.

The ARV Adherence measure is adapted from the Proportion of Days Covered (PDC) – Antiretroviral Agents measure which was developed and endorsed by the Pharmacy Quality Alliance (PQA). This PDC adherence calculation is the percent of days in the measurement period "covered" by two or more distinct antiretroviral drugs. The ARV Adherence rate measures the percentage of Medicare Part D beneficiaries 18 years and older who received at least two fills of two or more distinct ARV medication products during the measurement period and also met the PDC threshold of **90%**.

Initially, the ARV Adherence rates will be calculated using 2011 Prescription Drug Event (PDE) data and will be updated on a monthly basis. A contract-level report and a beneficiary-level report will be available to help sponsors monitor adherence to these medications and facilitate quality improvement. For additional information about the measure and the PDC calculation, an Adherence Report User Guide and the NDC-level medication lists used to calculate the measure are available on the Patient Safety Analysis Website under Help Documents (<https://partd.programinfo.us/PatientSafety>).

To access the Patient Safety Reports, you must be an authorized user of the Patient Safety Analysis Website. The access authorization process is described in this memo.

Background

Part D sponsors currently have access to monthly Patient Safety Reports via the Patient Safety Analysis Website to compare their performance to overall averages and monitor their progress in improving the Part D patient safety measures over time. These actionable reports include contract-level patient safety reports for each measure, additional detail-level reports, and outlier reports. Sponsors can also view an

'at-a-glance' Rate Summary and performance graphs. The website facilitates communication between CMS, the plans, and our contractor, Acumen, LLC.

As part of this effort, CMS currently calculates and reports on seven patient safety measures:

- High Risk Medication (HRM) measure *
- Diabetes Treatment (DT) measure *
- Drug-Drug Interaction (DDI) measure**
- Diabetes Medication Dosage (DMD) measure**
- Part D Medication Adherence (ADH) for Cholesterol (Statins)*
- Part D Medication Adherence (ADH) for Hypertension (ACEI or ARB)*
- Part D Medication Adherence (ADH) for Oral Diabetes Medications*

* Part D Plan Rating on Medicare.gov Plan Finder

** Part D Display Measure on CMS.gov

Access to the Patient Safety Analysis Website

To access the Patient Safety Reports, you must be an authorized user of the Patient Safety Analysis Website. Acumen, LLC currently manages multiple websites for Medicare Part D contracts, including the Patient Safety Analysis Website. In accordance with Federal Information Security Management Act (FISMA) regulations, only the plan's Medicare Compliance Officer is authorized to give access to these websites for each contract.

To streamline this process, Acumen has developed the User Security website – a web tool that allows Medicare Compliance Officers to manage their website users.

To add users and assign them permissions to the Patient Safety Analysis Website, the Medicare Compliance Officer must log onto the User Security Website (https://partd.programinfo.us/User_Security). For security purposes, each contract is allowed up to five users. Once users have been added and assigned access permissions, Acumen will send these authorized Patient Safety Analysis Website users:

- An email with the login user name and website user guide, and
- A letter with login password via USPS.

General questions related to this Patient Safety Analysis project should be sent via email to PartDMetrics@cms.hhs.gov. For technical questions related to website or report access, please contact Acumen at PatientSafety@AcumenLLC.com or by phone at (650) 558-8006.

Thank you for your continued dedication to helping Medicare beneficiaries.